

PLO: Iran ordered kidnappings

TUNIS (R) — A senior Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) official said Saturday that Iran ordered the kidnapping in Lebanon of an American U.N. officer and two Scandinavians employed by a U.N. agency. Salah Khalaf, head of PLO counter-intelligence, said he had evidence that Iran ordered an Islamic extremist group to abduct Lieutenant Colonel William Higgins, whose captors have said he is a U.S. spy (See page 2). "We believe Iran wants to make a new deal with the Americans using Higgins," he told Reuters. Khalaf said that Sweden's Jan Stening and Norwegian William Joergensen, employees of the U.N. Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA), were seized the same way two weeks ago in Lebanon. UNRWA accused Palestinians connected to PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat's Fatah group of being behind their abduction. But Khalaf, number two to Arafat in Fatah, said the PLO had suspicions that Palestinians had carried out the kidnappings until they searched a number of houses in South Lebanon.



King sends message to Ibn Ali

TUNIS (Petra) — Tunisian President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali Saturday received a verbal message from His Majesty King Hussein dealing with the current situation in the Arab region and moves at the regional and international level for finding a just and peaceful solution for the Palestine problem. The message was conveyed to Ibn Ali in Tunis by Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri, who arrived in Tunis Friday to take part in meetings of a pan-Arab ministerial committee in charge of drawing up a unified plan to implement Arab resolutions on the Arab-Israeli conflict and follow up on the uprising in the occupied Arab territory (See story below). Ibn Ali's meeting with Masri was attended by Tunisian Prime Minister Al Hadi Bacouch and Foreign Minister Mahmoud Mestiri as well as Jordan's Ambassador to Tunisia Talal Al Hassan. Following the meeting, Masri said that the King's message also contained ideas that could help give further momentum to the peace process through an international conference. The message, Masri added, is part of Jordan's diplomatic moves to brief Arab leaders on the developments in the Middle East and to maintain continued consultations with all Arab countries.

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Cabinet approves draft law

AMMAN (Petra) — The Cabinet met Saturday under the chairmanship of Prime Minister Zaid Rifai and approved a draft law endorsing the concession given to the Jordanian Company for Poultry Production and Marketing. The concession gives the monopoly of construction and ownership of poultry slaughter houses and egg-grading centres in the country for 25 years. The Cabinet also approved an allowances system for Armed Forces officers.

Turkey denies report of Saudi troop talks

ANKARA (R) — Turkey denied Saturday that it was negotiating with Saudi Arabia to send troops to serve as internal security units in the kingdom. Foreign Ministry spokesman Inal Batu told the Anatolian news agency that Friday's report in Britain's Independent newspaper of negotiations was imaginary and groundless. "There have been no requests made of Turkey on such a subject and Turkey has not made any. No negotiations have taken place," Batu told the agency. The Independent said Turkey was willing to send 16,000 troops to Saudi Arabia on condition they were deployed in eastern Saudi Arabia and would not be used against Iran.

Egypt seeks Arab investment

ABU DHABI (R) — An Egyptian trade official touring the Gulf said Saturday that Cairo was seeking Arab investment for major industrial projects. A list of 79 industrial ventures would be presented to an Arab investment conference in Cairo next month. Muhiyiddin Gharib, deputy chairman of Egypt's investment authority, told a news conference. Gharib, who held talks earlier with Abu Dhabi trade officials, said the proposed projects were worth more than \$1.7 billion and covered the electronics, garment, food, tourism, engineering and chemical industries.

Denmark lodges protest with Iraq

COPENHAGEN (AP) — The Danish government Saturday accused Iraq of attacking a Danish tanker in the Gulf last week, killing a crew member and injuring three others, and said a diplomatic protest was delivered to Baghdad. "The Foreign Ministry's investigation has conclusively confirmed that it was a missile attack carried out by an Iraqi aircraft," a Foreign Ministry statement said.

Kohl ends visit to U.S.

BONN (R) — West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl returned from a trip to Washington Saturday after proclaiming that there was no disagreement between Bonn and the United States on defence. Kohl told a news conference before flying home there were "no differences" between him and the Americans on defence and disarmament policy. A senior U.S. official said a reported row between Kohl and President Reagan over whether to modernise or negotiate on U.S. tactical nuclear missiles in West Germany had never existed.

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Israeli bullets claim 2 more Palestinians

RAMALLAH, occupied West Bank (Agencies) — Police and soldiers fired live ammunition at Palestinian demonstrators in several areas of the Israeli-occupied West Bank Saturday, killing two Arabs and wounding a number of others, Palestinian sources and the Israeli army said.



British Labour Party leader Neil Kinnock visits a Palestinian hospitalised after severely wounded in beatings by Israeli soldiers. Kinnock visited the occupied territories over the weekend.

The Palestine Press Service (PPS) said Israeli soldiers killed the boy, whom it identified as Nasseralla Abdul Kader, and shot another boy in the chest. The agency did not have any other details. The boy was killed during demonstrations in the Tulkarem refugee camp. Earlier Saturday, an Israeli policeman shot dead a Palestinian demonstrator near a mosque in Ramallah, where clashes also occurred. The 19-year-old Palestinian was identified as Abdullah Atta Abdullah Attaya. He was killed after a patrol came under attack from a group of demonstrating Palestinians, the army said.

According to U.N. figures, 57 Arabs have died at the hands of Israelis since the Palestinian uprising in the occupied territories began Dec. 8. The figure does not include Saturday's deaths. Police said a firebomb was thrown at a restaurant in Arab Jerusalem frequented by Israelis. There was no damage. More than 10 people were injured in Saturday's clashes, according to military sources. Hospital officials said Abdullah Attaya was shot in the head at close range in Ramallah. "He was apparently hit by multiple bullets," said Isa Salti, director of Ramallah government hospital.

Outside the mosque, pools of blood were left on the street. Relatives took Attaya's body from the hospital and buried him in his nearby village of Kufri Nimeh, reports said. "I feel proud that my brother fell on the land of Palestine for the sake of Palestine. He is not the first and will not be the last and this is a bridge we all must pass," Mohammad Attaya, an employee for the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA), told Reuters.

An army spokeswoman said

border police opened fire when their vehicle, stopped by a makeshift roadblock at the entrance to an alleyway in Ramallah, came under a hail of stones and bottles thrown by youths. Palestinian-eyewitnesses told Reuters the policeman shot Attaya as he ran away from the vehicle. Salti told Reuters another boy was brought to Ramallah hospital with a gunshot wound in his arm. But the boy escaped when the army began firing tear-gas and rubber bullets into the hospital.

One tear-gas canister landed in the hospital laboratory and another in the maternity ward, forcing hospital staff to carry away 12 premature babies in incubators. In the West Bank town of Bani Naim near Hebron, troops shot and slightly wounded three Palestinians during violent demonstrations Saturday morning, an army spokesman said.

Palestinian sources quoted by Reuters said masked demonstrators buried stones at an army vehicle in Bani Naim, injuring a soldier. The army responded with tear-gas, rubber bullets and live ammunition, injuring at least 10 people, they said. Soldiers also shot and wounded at least eight Palestinians in the West Bank village of Toubas, military sources said.

Officials at the nearby Al Ittihad hospital said 10 people, aged between 16 and 29, were brought into the hospital with gunshot wounds during the day. The PPS also reported protests in the Qalandiya refugee camp near Ramallah, at Yatta, south of Hebron, the Jabalya camp in the Gaza Strip and Kahatya, also near Jenin.

In the Gaza Strip, Palestinian sources said troops broke into the homes of three Arabs in Beit Hanoun and beat them after stones were thrown at a military vehicle in the area.

Syria denounces Shultz visit, restates rejection of U.S. plan

DAMASCUS (Agencies) — Syria's state-run Damascus Radio Saturday denounced the impending Middle East tour by U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz as "nothing but a political airlift to rescue Israel and gain time." Shultz is expected to visit Jordan, Egypt, Israel and possibly Syria next week to outline new U.S. proposals for ending the Arab-Israeli conflict. The radio said the American "ideas would serve nobody except Israel, which is killing and torturing the Palestinian Arabs, maintaining a deaf ear to worldwide condemnation and criticism."

The radio commentary said the new U.S. initiative came "at a time when Israel is continuing to commit crimes against the Arabs in the occupied Syrian Golan Heights, the West Bank and Gaza Strip, and while the Arabs insist on fighting the Israeli occupation."

"The objective of the U.S. initiative is to suppress the (Palestinian) uprising," the radio added. The American ideas "have been completely rejected by the Arab states concerned, because there is not much difference between them and the Camp David accords," the commentary said. The U.S. proposals "call for unreal solutions and separate deals through direct negotiations between Israel and each Arab state," the commentary said. It added that "it seems the U.S. administration is trying to satisfy Israel's Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, who only recently rejected a proposal for return-

ing the occupied territories to their real owners, and called on the Arab states to bold direct and separate negotiations with Israel."

"This indeed reveals that America, in collaboration with Israel, is playing tricks to gain time, so that they can suppress the Palestinian uprising and block the unification of Arab attitudes."

"As a matter of fact, the U.S. administration is rejecting the idea of an international Middle East peace conference, at a time when almost the whole world supports the idea. This is a fact which casts doubts on U.S. efforts and plans regarding the Middle East crisis."

"liquidate the Palestinian cause" and end the uprising in the occupied territories. But a PLO spokesman quoted by Wafa said not rule out any future meeting between Palestinians and the United States or any other member of the United Nations Security Council. "As the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, the PLO takes into account, as it has always done, the existence of such delegations of leading (Palestinian) figures both inside and outside (the occupied territories)," the spokesman said. The report on a purported list of seven residents of Israeli-occupied areas to meet Shultz was published by a Nazareth weekly, Al Senara.

Al Senara claimed the candidates were university professor Sari Nusseibeh, Al Fajr editor Hanna Siniara, Gaza lawyer Fayez Abu Rahmeh, editor Ziyad Abu Ziyad, former Hebron Mayor Mustafa Natsheh, Nabulus notable Saeed Kanaan and Izzeddin Al Aryan, head of the Palestinian Red Crescent in the West Bank, who the paper said was under administrative detention. Al Senara said the Americans wanted some of those names deleted and others added, including Bethlehem Mayor Elias Freij and Hikmat Al Masri, head of the board of trustees of Al Najah University in Nabulus. The London-based Mideast Mirror quoted Nusseibeh as saying "I am going to be invited to discussions with Shultz on the basis of the proposals we have heard so far, I see no point in me or others going to the meeting."

King reaffirms rejection of partial solutions

By a Jordan Times Staff Writer

HIS MAJESTY King Hussein has reaffirmed Jordan's rejection of any bilateral agreement to settle the Arab-Israeli conflict and reiterated that only a comprehensive and lasting solution covering all aspects of the conflict could restore peace in the Middle East. "What we have always needed and wanted in the Middle East is a comprehensive and lasting settlement, one that our future generations can live with," the King said in an address delivered Friday on his behalf at Harvard University by Jordan's United Nations Ambassador Abdullah Salah. "Any bilateral agreement between only two parties in the conflict would result in no more than a stop-gap measure devoid of any real peace."

"For any settlement to hold," the King said, "it must be honoured by the parties involved in the conflict and guaranteed by the international community, whose involvement is necessary to ensure the permanency of the agreement reached."

The King's statement, addressed to the 1988 Harvard National Model United Nations, reaffirmed the Arab call for a U.N.-sponsored international conference on the Arab-Israeli conflict with the participation of all parties involved, including the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), and the five permanent members of the Security Council. "Any attempt to exclude the Palestinians will only end in failure," the King said. "No process can ever succeed, nor any peace ever last, without the participation and consent of the primarily injured party, the Palestinians."

In his address to the forum, which has chosen as its theme "the role of the less developed countries in international politics," the King reviewed the history of the United Nations since its inception and said: "In the past several years, we have witnessed a disturbing tendency to discredit the United Nations and cast doubts on its effectiveness. These attacks, which come from different quarters and are often reinforced by the media, have somehow tarnished the U.N. image and led to a widespread loss of faith in its intrinsic value as the world's peacekeeper and guardian of human rights."

"It is time now that the United Nations be given the opportunity to realise its full potential as a peacemaker," the King said. "We in the Arab World, as well as the majority of nations internationally, repeat again our call to the United Nations to serve as the forum for an international peace conference..."

The King also referred to the Iran-Iraq war and called for the implementation of Security Council Resolution 598 on the seven-year-old war. Following are major excerpts from the King's address:



HM King Hussein

"On that momentous day of October 24, 1945, when the Charter of the United Nations was signed in San Francisco, there were no doubts or cynicism about whether or not a world organisation dedicated to achieving universal peace, freedom, security and justice would work. The dominating spirit then, to a world battered by war, was that it had to work. We need more of that spirit now."

"Many countries, especially in the West, accuse the United Nations of becoming a forum for political rhetoric and dispute, which they believe has paralysed its effectiveness. They complain that the General Assembly, instead of functioning as the international parliament it was meant to be, has become an unproductive, self-serving arena controlled by a bloc of Third World countries."

"The less developed nations of the world, on the other hand, charge that the United Nations has been rendered ineffective by the conflicting interests and polarisation of the superpowers, who often use their privileged veto power to serve their own ends. These countries look to the Security Council, as the political decision-making body of the U.N., to act without bias on the issues brought before it. Instead, they find their regional interests, sometimes even their national existence, threatened by the global East-West rivalry for power and influence."

"There is considerable truth in both complaints. But the problem, in essence, reflects a more fundamental reality. In a way, the United Nations is passing through a time of transition between what was and what is to be — in which its member countries appear to be facing a decisive test between the parallel ideals of secure national existence and higher commitment to the international whole."

"That the United Nations has come this far is a testament to the enduring value of the principles upon which it was founded. While its efforts on the political level have not lived up to expectations, its work to alleviate the economic, social and humanitarian ills of our global family are above reproach."

"The primary goal of the U.N., however, — and I will again quote from its Charter — is 'to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war... to reaffirm faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person, in the equal rights of men and women and of nations large and small.' In realising this aim, we cannot but admit that the U.N. has fallen short. True, in many instances, conflicts have been resolved or at least contained. But the front page of our daily newspaper keeps reminding us of the scores of other unresolved conflicts raging around the world, the blatant acts of violence, injustice and repression, that continue to darken our vision of peace, of a new, equitable international order."

"In the Middle East, the promise of peace has eluded us for as many years as the United Nations has been in existence. No other issue in the world has occupied as much of its energy and concern as has the Arab-Israeli conflict. And no other issue better reveals what the United Nations can and cannot do. I will not dwell on the long history of cause and effect, of past mistakes, failed initiatives and missed opportunities. The protracted absence of peace in our region has brought us all to a crucial and decisive stage."

"The problem, from our perspective, is clear and simple: a grievous injustice has been committed; it must be rectified. Its roots go back to 1947, when the United Nations partition plan led to the establishment of the state of Israel in the Arab land of Palestine. In the four decades since then, the Arab-Israeli conflict has spawned five wars and taken its toll in immeasurable human suffering. The initial injustice, which was compounded in 1967, is now overwhelming in its human and territorial proportions."

"The magnitude of the injustice, that has been perpetrated on the Palestinian people can be summed up in one compelling statement: An entire people of more than four million men, women and children have been deprived by force of their entire ancestral homeland and denied their

Regent, Goulding discuss uprising, peace efforts

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, held talks Saturday with U.N. Under-Secretary-General Marrack Goulding on the latest developments in the region, and the current situation in the occupied territories, Petra said.

The prime minister stressed Jordan's stand and belief that the proposed international conference is the only way for achieving just and comprehensive peace in the region, Petra said. Rifai also reiterated Jordan's rejection of all partial settlements, separate solutions and "autonomy" projects, Petra said. Rifai and Goulding also discussed the Iran-Iraq war and agreed on the need for implementing U.N. Security Council Resolution 598. The prime minister stressed the need for issuing a new U.N. resolution to impose sanctions against Iran for its rejection of peace initiatives and its continued aggression against Iraq, Petra said.

Goulding explained U.N. views concerning solutions to the Middle East problem and the Gulf war and the U.N. role in this respect, Petra added. Goulding arrived here from Lebanon Friday evening. He was scheduled to hold talks with Acting Foreign Minister Marwan Dudin and Information Minister Hani Al Khasawneh. Amman is the fourth leg of a regional tour by Goulding, aimed partly at exploring the possibility of revitalising Arab-Israeli peace efforts. He earlier visited Lebanon, Tunisia and Syria and is due to go on to the occupied territories and Israel.

Shultz sets U.S. terms for Soviet role in peace parley

HELSINKI (AP) — U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz said Saturday the Soviet Union must "face up" to its human rights problems if it wants to participate in a Middle East peace conference. Shultz specifically cited restrictions on emigration and religious practices, as well as a lack of diplomatic relations with Israel. "I think it's fair to say that if you want to come to an international conference about some tense and important subjects it would be a good idea if you had full diplomatic relations with all the parties," Shultz said at a Helsinki news conference after arriving from Washington.

He was to continue his flight by air force jet Sunday to Moscow, where the Mideast is one topic on the agenda for scheduled talks with Soviet officials. "It would be a good idea if issues involving human rights in the Soviet Union, openness of emigration, were not such contentious issues, and you would resolve some of those problems," said Shultz.

He planned talks Sunday with Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze and Monday with General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev and Shevardnadze.

Next week Shultz will visit the Middle East. "The essence of movement on the Arab-Israeli peace process is what can be worked out by Israel and each of its neighbours, most prominently Jordan with Palestinians in a joint delegation," Shultz said.

Shultz said he would not seek Soviet backing for his efforts. "We will talk around about the Middle East, but we are not asking them for anything," he said. "I think it will be more in the nature of information sharing."

On his air force flight to Finland, Shultz said human rights had "pride of place" on his agenda for his talks with Shevardnadze and Gorbachev. "They have some work to do that will make their presence at an international conference more acceptable from our standpoint and Israel's standpoint," Shultz told reporters.

Shultz backs call for interim government in Kabul, page 8

Arab panel opens talks on means to back Palestinians

TUNIS (Agencies) — A seven-member committee of Arab foreign ministers opened talks here Saturday on means of supporting the ongoing Palestinian uprising in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

The Jordan News Agency, Petra, quoted informed sources as saying that the ministers would discuss Jordanian and Palestinian working papers and adopt resolutions to support the uprising and draft working programmes for moves in the international arena. The meeting was attended by ministers from Jordan, Algeria, Tunisia, Iraq and Saudi Arabia as well as Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) political department head Farouk Kaddoumi and Arab League Secretary-General Chadli Kibi. The group was formed at an emergency meeting of the 21-member league nearly a month ago. On the eve of the meeting, a senior PLO official said the PLO would confine its attacks to Israel and the occupied territories, and no arms would be used in the Palestinian uprising. Salah Khalaf, head of PLO

HOME BRIEFS

REGENT VISITS GHQ: His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Saturday called at the army headquarters in Amman and met for sometime with Army Chief of Staff Lieutenant-General Fathi Abu Taleb in the presence of Prime Minister Zaid Rifai and Court Minister Adnan Abu Odeh.

PRINCESS ALIA: Her Royal Highness Princess Alia opened at the Housing Bank Gallery Saturday an art exhibition by Mohammed Al Kishani. On display at the week-long exhibition are 30 oil paintings depicting Palestinian uprising in the occupied Arab Territories. The proceeds of the exhibition will be used to support the Palestinian revolt.

LOTTERY HELPS REVOLT: The General Union of Voluntary Societies (GUVS) has issued new lottery tickets for the March 2 drawing offering a total of JD 200,000 to winners. The first prize will be JD 50,000, the second JD 20,000 and the third JD 10,000. There are five other major prizes and numerous smaller ones. The proceeds of this issue will benefit the people in the occupied Arab territories, according to GUVS announcements in the local press. The announcement urged all citizens to purchase tickets which it said will directly benefit the Arab people now facing Israeli oppression. The price of each ticket is JD 5.

PORT CALL: The U.S. Navy ship USS Elrod will pay a port call in Agaba from Feb. 20-22, 1988. Ships of the U.S. Navy's Middle East Force regularly call at Agaba as part of their routine port visits to friendly states in the region. The USS Elrod is an Oliver Hazard Perry class frigate. While in Agaba, officers of the ship will pay courtesy calls on Jordanian military and civilian officials.

MAA'Z REELECTED: The Jordan Friday Association (JFA) Friday elected a new chairman and a six-member administrative committee for a term of two years. Farouq Maa'z, one of three contestants for the chairman's post, was re-elected chairman for a second consecutive term.

TOURISM TALKS: Minister of Tourism Zuhair Ajlouni met here Saturday with Spanish Ambassador to Jordan Ramon Armengod and discussed with him Jordanian-Spanish cooperation in tourism affairs. The meeting was attended by Minister of Tourism, Secretary General Nasri Atallah. Also on Saturday Minister of Transport and Communications Khaled Al Haj Hassan discussed with the Spanish ambassador means of further promoting existing bilateral cooperation in the fields of transport, telecommunications and postal services.

DONATION: The Housing Bank has decided to donate JD 30,000 to the people of the occupied Arab territory. An announcement Saturday said that the money, which will support the steadfastness of the Palestinian people, will be in addition to sums which will be collected from the bank's employees, who have decided to donate a day's pay from their salaries for the cause.

DRAWING CONTEST: Nazik Al Hariri Special Education Centre is organising a drawing contest for mentally retarded children, with the aim of developing their mental and physical skills. The contest is open to all mentally retarded from the age of 6 to 18. Deadline for receiving drawings is March 15.

STUDENTS ARE 32%: Students account for 32 per cent of the total population of Jordan, according to a report in the Arabic daily Sawt Al Shaah. The report said that the total number of students attending schools in Jordan is 894,695 while the number of school teachers stand at 37,516. The report added that the number of university students is 26,711 of whom 39 per cent are females.

SAFADI IN TUNIS: Jordan News Agency, Petra, Director General Ali Safadi discussed in Tunis Saturday with Tunisian News Agency Director Faraj Al Shayeb, means of bolstering Jordanian-Tunisian cooperation in the exchange of information, news and related material. The two officials also discussed the implementation of a Jordanian-Tunisian agreement on information signed in 1984. Initial agreement was reached at the meeting by both agencies to exchange news through their respective news networks. Safadi emphasised the importance of propagating the Arab Nation's news in the Arab World and Africa, and Shayeb stressed the importance of linking Arab news agencies through direct lines that can further boost cooperation among Arab countries.

Upper House discusses narcotics law

By Nermeen Murad
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — A Royal decree Saturday extended the term of the Upper House of Parliament (Senate) one month to end on March 10.

The Senate returned the drugs and narcotics law of 1988 to the Lower House of Parliament to correct an error believed to be a typing mistake.

Dr. Walid Salah criticised article 11 of the law which sought to punish doctors who misuse their right to prescribe medicinal drugs. Salah felt that article 9 of the law should be sufficient since it calls for punishment for drug dealers which would include unscrupulous doctors.

Article 11 calls for punishment of not less than ten years of

imprisonment with hard labour or a fine of not less than JD 3,000 for drug dealers, while article 9, which deals specifically with doctors who prescribe drugs to addicts, calls for an imprisonment term of not less than two years with hard labour or a fine of not less than JD 5,000.

Senator Ahmad Tarawneh, rapporteur of the Senate Legal Committee, said the committee has discussed the possibility of making a recommendation for such an amendment, but that they have decided "it would not be feasible to include such a ruling when there are only very few doctors who would prescribe drugs to addicts with no medical necessity or excuse."

Tarawneh added that doctors "have a humanitarian duty some-

times to give drugs to patients to alleviate their pain, until they reach a hospital or are helped to overcome their drug addiction."

The Senate also passed an amendment law to the Jordan Academy of Arabic Law of 1988. Meanwhile the Lower House of Parliament's Financial Committee Saturday held a meeting during which it discussed the 1986 report of the audit bureau.

The meeting was attended by Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs Dr. Sami Judeh and other senior officials.

The House Legal Committee will Sunday hold a meeting to discuss a draft amendment to the law of the Agricultural Credit Corporation (ACC) for 1988 and another draft amendment to the Higher Education Law for 1988.

JMI to organise operations of public hospitals

AMMAN — The newly formed Jordanian Medical Institution (JMI) will embark on practical steps towards streamlining and organising operations at various public sector hospitals before the middle of 1988, according to a report in Al Ra'i Arabic daily.

The paper quoted the institution's Director General Dr. Daoud Hanania as saying that hospitals run by the Health Ministry, the Armed Forces and the University of Jordan will be grouped under this institution.

The institution aims at unifying the level of training and services in hospitals and reducing expenses that could result from dual function, Hanania said.

The JMI, Hanania said, will help establish a national brain surgery centre and a cancer centre in Jordan.

Seminar discusses ways to raise higher education standards

By a Jordan Times
Staff Reporter

AMMAN — A group of Arab intellectuals and Higher Education cadres Saturday discussed means of enhancing higher education standards in the Arab World in light of the socio-economic developments and political changes.

Minister of Higher Education Nasseruddin Al Assad, in an inaugural address to a seminar entitled "The Higher Education We Are Seeking," said the symposium came at a time when his ministry was making a thorough review of the higher education policy in the Kingdom.

The ministry has always considered higher education as an integral part of society in its various aspects, Dr. Assad told the participants who included former ministers, educationists and scholars.

He said higher education should emanate "from our culture, education and reality." It should fulfill the needs of the society, walk in line with the local labour market and envisaged development plans.

Dr. Assad noted that 50 per cent of the unemployed were community college graduates, and added that Jordan has 57 community colleges in the East Bank, 21 of which are run by the private sector.

One of the ministry's objectives, according to Dr. Assad, is to set up a specialised college for qualifying community college graduates who are currently on the Ministry of Education's payroll.

Dr. Assad also spoke about his ministry's efforts to bridge the gap between universities and community colleges, with a view that community college graduates with distinguished grade be able to pursue their studies in universities.

The minister noted that 94 per cent of the students who earned an average of over 60 per cent in last year's Tawjihi examinations were enrolled in higher education institutes in the Kingdom and abroad.

Promoting individual qualities

In her address, Arab Women Graduate Club (AWGC) President Maryam Bakri stressed that education in its higher stages is not confined to theoretical teaching, "but rather, extends to developing the spirit of research and creativity amongst students."

Former Minister of Information Laila Sharaf said university education should stress on promoting individual qualities and talents rather than quantity. She said interaction among students, teachers and thinktanks was essential to promote the standards of higher education.

Participants in the seminar, organised by the AWGC, agreed on the urgency to reshuffle the current educational systems with a view to furnishing better incentives for students to encourage creativity and research.

In his working paper, American University of Beirut (AUB) Assistant Dean Makhlouf Haddadin made a chronological review of the role of a university since the inception of higher education institutes in Europe and the United States.

Haddadin underlined that universities should couple higher education with research activities, provided financial support was secured.

Hisham Neshabeh, an AUB professor, said in his working paper that Arab countries were "concerned and worried" about the current state of affairs as compared to previous eras, when they had might and civilisation. Neshabeh noted that Arabs were faced with continued setbacks whereas they had ushered in a great civilisation centuries ago.

Neshabeh warned against what he described as "non-alignment" of the school of thoughts as was the case in Europe at the turn of the century — a situation which bred and gave rise to extremist political lines. Fascism, Nazism, Zionism and Communism were instrumental in igniting the two world wars, he noted.

Americans have finally understood message of uprising — ADC aide

By Nermeen Murad
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Palestinian problem has finally touched the hearts of the American people, and the message of the uprising has finally been understood, a senior Arab-American Anti-Discrimination Committee (ADC) official said here Saturday.

In an interview with the Jordan Times, ADC Director of Development and Middle East Affairs Wafa Nasr said that Arab-Americans are now witnessing a "dramatic change in the behaviour of the U.S. administration, and in the way the foreign policy will be applied by the State Department in the Middle East, as a result of the (Palestinian) uprising."

According to Nasr, the politicians in the United States have one personal aim, and that is to reach Congress and remain there, "the politicians are starting to realise that there are avenues

for reaching Congress other than through the support of the Israeli lobby, and we might just be one of those other avenues," Nasr said.

The emergence of a new wave of human rights coalition of ethnic groups, of which the Palestinian Human Rights and the Arab-Americans are important elements, has made it evident that the politicians were not hatching Israeli interests out of "affection for the Israelis but out of personal interests," Nasr said.

Nasr said that one of the major achievements of the uprising was that it presented the Palestinian problem to the world as "completely unattached to terrorism, thus the world is now looking at Palestinians as human beings who were deprived of their human rights."

As a new trend emerges in the American perception of the Palestinian problem, Nasr added, ADC, which was originally founded with an aim to defend the image of Arabs in the United States, has started work on several projects to benefit from the new American sympathies emerging as a result of the uprising.

The media, being one of the most obvious avenues to be used

with such an aim, ADC plans to bring the four recently deported Palestinians to the United States to either live there until their return to the West Bank. The ADC plans to keep them in daily contact with the media for the duration of their stay in the U.S.

"We have to provoke the administration, either these four stay in the U.S. or they return home," Nasr added that "if we (Americans) are the champions of human rights, then these people's human rights were violated."

ADC also plans to bring fifteen young Palestinian men, who were victims of Israeli oppression and attacks in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, to the United States and organise for them a tour of the country, so that they would describe the reasons which brought about the uprising in the occupied territories.

A special budget of \$500,000, allocated especially for publishing the pictures of Palestinian martyrs, with a brief history of each one in all major newspapers, is another project that the ADC expects to fulfill in their drive to bring the truth about the uprising to the public in the U.S.

According to Nasr, ADC is also preparing a media campaign similar to those carried out in the Philippines and Nicaragua, aimed at conducting general elections in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

The uprising, according to Nasr, has helped the work of ADC tremendously, making it possible for the ADC to open an office in Jerusalem which looks after the interests of American Palestinians and "observes closely" the violations of human rights in the occupied territories.

"We are talking of violations which go beyond physical violations that we see on television," said Nasr.

According to Nasr, the uprising cannot be expected to last forever, "the Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza are not prepared physically to stay for a year or two doing what they are doing now, physically it is too much for them."

But he added: "still they are doing it, for over seventy days they have been fighting, this clearly shows the resistance they have, the fibre they are made of, the guts they have, it is a miracle."

The media in the United States, according to Nasr, was waiting for such an opportunity to make clear that Americans are "not against Palestinian rights but against terrorism."

"Here is an uprising which has no roots in terrorism, so the Americans support it," Nasr said.

As for the coverage of the uprising in the media, Nasr said it was "fantastic, not only in reports of the uprising but also in editorials." Nasr added that "in mainstream media, not only is the coverage in favour of the uprising, it is also harshly critical of Israeli practices, and that is what is important."

ADC plans to hold a fund raising dinner for around 120 couples at the beginning of March. The proceeds will go towards media campaigns in the United States aimed at placing "daily pressures on the American administration to attract the attention of the American people to the horrors of the Israeli oppression."

Sudanese team visits Police Academy

AMMAN (Petra) — A Sudanese delegation, now on a visit to Jordan, Saturday called at the Criminal Investigation Department and the Police Academy where they inspected facilities and training programmes.

The delegation, led by Major General Abdullah Abdo were briefed on the development of the two departments and their training programmes.

Later Saturday the delegation visited the headquarters of the

Special Police Force and heard a briefing on its development and duties.

The delegation also watched daily exercises performed by the police officers.

They were accompanied on the tour by senior officers from the Public Security Department.

The Jordanian and Sudanese sides held talks on bilateral cooperation in the field of security. The talks on the Jordanian side

were led by Public Security Department (PSD) Director Lieutenant General Hadi Al Majali and on the Sudanese side by Gen. Abdo.

Gen. Majali expressed Jordan's full readiness to send a PSD team of officers to Sudan to examine its needs.

The two sides also discussed the possibility of giving training to Sudanese police officers through training course held in the Police Academy in Jordan.

ABS offers 75 scholarships, bursaries

By Meg Abu Hamdan
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The Amman Baccalaureate School (ABS) announced Saturday that it is offering 75 scholarships and bursaries to children from all walks of life who wish to study in its senior school. This represents a doubling of the scholarship places already available at the ABS and means that in the 1988/89 academic year approximately 20% of all the children in the senior school will be receiving financial assistance with their school fees.

The Scholarship programme was introduced into the ABS in 1984 making it one of the first schools in the private education sector to offer financial assistance to bright and highly motivated students in government schools in the Amman area who wished to take advantage of the schools' facilities.

In those days there were only nine scholarships available. In this academic year there are now 38 students on full scholarships and another 34 on other types of financial assistance not only indicating the rapid growth of the scheme but also its appeal and success.

ABS Principal David Phillips told the Jordan Times: "The idea behind the scholarship scheme is to make the school more accessible to a wider spectrum of society, and in this way to allow the school to have more impact on national life. The success of the scholarship scheme is also very interesting as it indicates that all the individuals, companies and institutions who have put up the money for these scholarships, especially in today's economic climate, have great faith and confidence in the school."

This confidence is not unfounded. The children who took the first scholarship places have just completed the first part of their Tawjihi. The highest grade received was 96.2% while the average for the whole group was an impressive 89.9%.

These children, Mr. Phillips maintains, have also been successful



Amman Baccalaureate School science students experimenting in the laboratory. The school is offering three scholarships for outstanding science students.

ful in other ways by becoming prefects and taking on other positions of responsibility. Hopefully, finances and other conditions allowing, all these students will go on to Jordanian universities.

Application forms for the scholarships and bursaries are available from the school and applicants will be invited to take an entrance test. Those shortlisted will be interviewed by a special interviewing panel.

The awards which range from full scholarships to bursaries that give 50% and 25% discounts on the school fees are open to all comers, that is all bright children from low to middle income groups from all over the country and not just — as it was previously — to children from government schools.

For those from further afield

there will be boarding facilities, a new departure for the ABS which will be started in an initially simple and basic way until demand grows.

Full scholarships are available to children entering the seventh, 10th and 11th grades and the bursaries are available to those applying for grades 7 through to 11.

Three of the scholarships are being offered specifically to students interested in science and two more to students talented in music.

"If we are able to expand our scholarship programme at this rate or even half this rate, it will mean that quite a significant proportion of our senior school will be at the ABS purely on merit," Mr. Phillips concluded.

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Sunday's Economic Pulse

Fiscal deficit: Old and declining

By Dr. Fahed Fanek

THE relatively large deficit in the central government budget, the deficit in the current account of the balance of payments and unemployment are the main structural problems of the country's economy. Fiscal adjustment, therefore, remains one of the major challenges that faces the government especially because it calls for tough measures that are by no means popular or desired by any government.

Some observers, Jordanians and foreigners, are under the false impression that the budget deficit is a new phenomenon, that it is on the rise, and that it is a result of recent difficult financial circumstances, namely the reduction in external aid and increases in the public expenditure as a means to absorb the shock of economic recession.

However, the figures published by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) in its weekly newsletter "IMF Survey" (Jan. 15, 1988), covering fiscal deficit in all countries of the world, indicate two important facts. First, that the deficit in the central government budget is a common worldwide phenomenon; and second, that the

deficit in the Jordanian budget in particular is not new, nor is it on the increase, if taken as a percentage of the gross domestic product, the measure that makes economic sense and that is being used by the IMF.

The statistics of the IMF indicate that the percentage of deficit in the Jordanian budget, which was covered by local and external borrowings stood as follows between 1976-1985: 9.64, 18.01, 25.36, 9.94, 11.17, 9.96, 9.70, 7.62, 9.32, 9.73, an overall average of 12 per cent of the gross domestic product. It is important to note though that the average stands at 14.8 per cent for the first five years (1976-1980) and drops down to 9.3 per cent during the last five years (1981-1985).

It is also important to note that Jordan's budget deficit is not one of the highest among world countries. Many other countries, large and small alike, suffered higher fiscal deficits. However, our fiscal deficit remains relatively large in comparison to the overall average deficit of all countries, amounting to 5.17 per cent, or in

comparison to the average deficit in the developing countries of 5.68 per cent of GDP.

It is true that the difficult financial circumstances had put our financial policy-makers under pressure, and gave them little, if any, margin to manoeuvre; but it is equally true that fiscal deficit was long time ago an accepted and applied policy, rather than an unavoidable outcome of externally imposed circumstances. Therefore the policy itself needs to be re-examined, and gradually adjusted. It is of course tolerable and safe to live with a deficit not exceeding 5 per cent of the gross domestic product. It is also safer to cover most or all of this deficit from domestic borrowing which is effectively a form of indirect tax on the people but much less fair than direct taxes.

Internal borrowing in local currency may crowd out the investments of the private sector which is not active any more, while external borrowing in foreign exchange may have a temporary positive effect but is extremely harmful on the longer run.

Good grief

GEORGE Shultz's propensity to mix bombastic moralism, pro-Israeli partiality and anti-Palestinian bias in a volatile mixture results in — well, results in what we see today: A United States seeking to revive its role as an impartial mediator, but being greeted throughout the Middle East by a combination of scepticism and laughs. Never mind. American secretaries of state have a right — one sometimes thinks it's a constitutional duty — to say foolish things when discussing the Palestinian issue, and Mr. Shultz, as we have come to expect, does not fail to rise to the occasion. Talking to the Council of Foreign Relations in Washington last week, he said: "The actions that have taken place on the West Bank and Gaza in a sense have identified Palestinians who are there; and just who they are, and whether there is any one, two or three people that you can think of as leaders is a question mark ... these developments say that the Palestinians residing on the West Bank and Gaza are not too happy with the leadership they have been getting from wherever, and they're kind of taking things somewhat into their own hands."

Golly gee, holy cow, I mean, whaddayaknow, the point is, if you sort of look around and see what has happened to American statesmen, uh, that is, well, sort of American statesmen, you discover, after you've been in this game as long as we have, that by golly, and this is sincere, really right from the heart, sort of like Perry Como would say, meaningful, you'll ask yourself: What's it all about? Or the better question would be, you know, the better question context-wise and in terms of results, because results are what we're after, as after all, we're out to achieve results, not just to play games, the better question relates to, just whom do you talk to? It will be, you know, hard, tough, even real difficult, as we move forward on this all together, maybe Danny Thomas can help us out on this one, as we make progress towards peace — and that's the objective we have always sought — as we advance, we need to ask ourselves the basic, fundamental, essential question, the bottom line as we used to call it in the private sector: That is, who's your leader, or what's up, do? Jeez, this is the most dog-gone peculiar folks these Palestinians, just look at 'em, will you? No leaders, no country, no rights, no protection, all they do is fight all the time, and their birth rate is, holy cow, is really high, higher even than New Jersey; and when they're invited to talk to American secretaries of state, they don't always accept the invitation. Have you ever seen anything so cotin-pickin' crazy? Mother used to say all the time, beware of people without gods or leaders. So, uh, you know, I mean, well, context-wise, and progress-wise, and peace-anticipatorially-wise, this leaderless-people syndrome is tough, real tough. Jeez, imagine that, a whole people, without leaders, just fightin' in the streets all day, ain't that the most peculiar thing you've ever heard of?

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Nothing new

U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz has revealed some information about his new initiative which he intends to propose to the leaders of the Middle East during his coming visit. Shultz stressed that his initiative is in fact an old one but in a new form. This clearly means that there is nothing new in it, nor is there any proposals from Washington for resolving the Middle East problem. In this case, one can understand that the U.S. ideas are only based on the old Camp David accords and will be presented in a new form to the Arab World. Of course the Arab stand with regard to any ideas will depend on the essence not the form; and so, if Shultz intends to talk about self-autonomy for the Palestinians as contained in the Camp David agreements, then no progress will be achieved towards a solution because such ideas which were rejected by the Arabs, cannot lead to a just and comprehensive peace in the region because they fail to help the Palestinians regain their national rights in their own homeland. In the light of this, we consider the new form of the old ideas no more than a manoeuvre and not a serious attempt by Washington to lay the foundation for a genuine peace. We are almost certain that Shultz will receive a similar response to these American ideas from the Soviet foreign minister during their meeting in Moscow, because Moscow objects to partial solutions and seeks a lasting and comprehensive solution that can guarantee the rights of the Palestinian people and a permanent peace.

Al Dustour: No one expected miracles

U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz is due in Moscow Sunday to start a tour abroad which will take him to the Middle East. Although Shultz had said he will carry ideas to the leaders of countries involved in the Arab-Israeli conflict, yet the Arab people are pessimistic about such ideas and the outcome of his tour specially as American sources had been saying that no one should expect miracles from this tour. There is no doubt that pessimism and lack of confidence in the new American mission stem from the fact that the Arab countries feel Shultz's ideas and proposals are shrouded with mystery. In addition U.S. total bias towards Israel and its unlimited support and assistance to the Jewish state place Washington in a weak position to realise the realities about the situation in our area, or to do anything about it, which in turn makes Washington more liable to respond more favourably to Israel's demands and views specially Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir who openly refuses the idea of swapping peace for land. Therefore, a quick look at Israel's declared position and the ambiguous ideas of Shultz, makes us realise that the U.S. secretary of state's mission in our area will end in failure. We are also sure that any American attempt to find solutions outside the jurisdiction of an international conference will not succeed.

Sawt Al Shaab: All for, Shultz against

ONCE again we hear voices condemning Israeli actions in the occupied Arab territory for its inhuman practices against the Palestinian people under its rule. The latest condemnation was expressed by British Labour Party leader Neil Kinnock who visited the occupied Arab territory and examined Israel's atrocities. Kinnock described life under Israeli rule as hell and expressed sympathy with the Palestinian people facing Israeli oppression. At the same time other voices around the world continue to deplore Israel's practices and call for peace based on justice while Israel continues to pursue its terrorist actions and adheres to its intransigence and rejection of all peace bids. Despite world condemnation of Israel's actions, U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz has made statements that clearly lack insight of the situation in the region. Shultz who will be coming to the Middle East shortly with new ideas about a settlement lacks the power to bring views that can take into consideration the interests of all parties to the conflict.

The uprising brings anxiety and hope

By Robert Swann

LIVE ammunition and rubber bullets give way to beatings, deliberate breaking of hands (a military commemoator in the *Jerusalem Post* estimates this stops someone throwing stones for six weeks) and the smashing of belongings in the already wretched accommodation of the Gaza camps. Mass demonstrations take a secondary place to commercial strikes or pleas for an economic boycott. Has there really been a fundamental change in the situation and prospects of the Palestinian people or will the situation a year from now look much as it did a year ago?

Anyone who has seen, as I have done, the pride of Palestinians inside Palestine — even those not directly involved in the more dramatic aspects of the uprising — at the death-defying challenge of their compatriots to Israel's armed forces senses the kind of qualitative change that excludes a return to the status quo ante. The old traditional bourgeois families of Jerusalem are as much affected as those who for two generations have known nothing but the squalor of the refugee camps. At the same time no one quite knows what will be the effect of the emergence of new leaders within the Palestinian community inside Palestine.

New leaders not a new leadership — the difference is important. Palestinians in the occupied territories identify themselves with the PLO as much as ever. They insist on their common national identity with the Palestinian diaspora and with their compatriots within the "green line" (inside pre-1967 Israel). Young activist leaders in the camps may be loosely identified with Fatah, or with the Popular Front or with Islamic Jihad (the latter almost exclusively in Gaza) but these pre-uprising identifications are of little importance compared with the practical experience of working together in an emergency. Practical instructions on opening or closing shops, taking part in demonstrations or remaining indoors emanate jointly from young men who have proved their right to authority by their competence in the days of crisis. The aim of these instructions is to make Israelis pay a heavy price, economically, in national and army morale and in international opinion for the brutality of occupation.

Both the PLO leadership abroad and the best known PLO supporters inside Palestine are a little irrelevant at the moment. Israeli politicians talk much more than before of "discussions with Palestinians", but they themselves have made such a process more difficult by rejecting the PLO, sacking mayors, placing some local leaders in administrative detention and expelling others. European Community Commissioner Claude Cheysson, thinking probably in terms of France's long-delayed recognition of the need to negotiate with the Algerian FLN, has told Israeli leaders on occasion that if the PLO did not exist they would one day have to invent it. This will remain true provided the PLO adapts to the emergence of a younger generation of leaders inside Palestine. Judging by those I talked to, the great majority would accept a two-state solution but not a bogus autonomy denying them a national identity.

There are apparently contradictory trends within Israeli opinion, and much may depend on how this evolves in the period before the election due at the end of the year. On the one hand, polls suggested that if an election were held now, a majority would exist for the ever more brutal "iron fist policy". On the other hand, more realistic and internationally-conscious groups and individuals are worried about the economic consequences of having to keep large regular forces in the occupied territories, about the effect on conscript morale, about the attitudes of conscripts' parents when they hear that the army is drafting in psychiatrists to deal with problems created by bashing up defenceless youths, and by the impact on diaspora Jewry and American opinion of the shattering of the "idealised" vision of Israel.

The demographic concern

As well as the relatively small minority who are genuinely receptive to the idea of Palestinian national rights, a great many more are alarmed by the demographic consequences of treating the occupied territories as if they were an integral part of Israel, thereby leading to an eventual Arab majority, even if the issue were judged by denying Arabs in the territories any voting rights. This concern has been greatly increased by the conspicuous support given by Arabs within the "green line" to those in the territories, which explains to a large extent the much greater interests shown in the Palestinian issue by people like Shulamit Aloni and the *Shinui* party, who have been more concerned by problems of Jewish fundamentalism. We must not forget, however, that there is also a strong current of opinion in favour of mass expulsions of Palestinians to "solve" the problem once and for all!

For different, though related, reasons the attitude of diaspora Jewry and of Europe will be of great importance in influencing Israeli opinion. To put it at its crudest, Israel's very existence depends on American economic aid. The government appeared to take America's vote against Israel (and two abstentions) in the Security Council relatively calmly and the press reported that Shultz had assured Tel Aviv that there would be no cut in aid. There is, however, real anxiety about the very Jewish attitude of even mainline American Jewish groups and the open dissent of distinguished European Jews, including many who have been friends of Israel since the late 1940s. If Robert Dole's suggestion that he would look seriously at the extent of U.S. aid to Israel was more than casual one-off remark it could be very serious indeed. It would mean that a candidate for the U.S. presidency reckons that the Israeli lobby is enfeebled by its own self-doubts.

If the U.S. is the source of economic aid, Western Europe is a major trading partner. The European parliament has so far declined to ratify the latest protocols between the Community and Israel, and this has greatly upset the government, though it professes certainty that the agreement will soon be accepted. In parallel to this, Palestinians in the occupied territories are very much aware of and enthusiastic about the European Community's decision to encourage imports directly from the territories instead of via Israel and Jordan. This is not because they have illusions about short-term economic effects (on the contrary they are bracing themselves for the consequences of massive dismissals by Israeli employers), but because they see in the Community's attitude a recognition of their national identity.

During my short visit to the occupied territories I thought frequently of the Easter Rising of 1916 and Yeats' "terrible beauty". The establishment of a Free State in Ireland did not occur for several more years and yet it had been made inevitable — Middle East International, London.

How the U.S. loses influence

By Anthony Lewis

BOSTON — An important figure in the community of American support for Israel commented privately the other day about the need for Palestinians to play an effective part if negotiations are to get anywhere in the Middle East. It is essential, he said, that "an empowered Palestinian leadership step forward."

In light of that wise premise, consider the latest adventure in United States relations with the Palestinians. That is the decision, taken by Congress and reportedly oar implementation by the Reagan administration, to force the closing of the Palestine Liberation Organisation's observer mission at the United Nations.

The move against the PLO office has been widely criticised as a violation of the treaty commitments made by the United States when the U.N. located its headquarters in New York. If the action is taken, it is likely to be found unlawful by arbitrators or, ultimately, the World Court.

But the immediate question is one not of law but of common sense. How is the United States going to help bring one of the essential parties to the negotiating table if it is seen as deliberate-

ly humiliating that party?

Because the PLO or its factions have committed some outrageous acts of "terrorism," it is widely described in Israel and the United States as a "terrorist organisation." But to most Palestinians it is their voice, their expression of nationalism in a world where they have no state. Anyone with the least knowledge of the Middle East understands that reality.

Even Palestinians who are critical of PLO policy are bound to be offended by a move against its observers at the United Nations. The act must look to them like one directed against Palestinians as Palestinians.

What makes this so important is that there can be no diplomatic progress in the Middle East — no hope of escape from the escalating dangers of the present condition — without an active American role. That is why Secretary of State Shultz is planning an extended visit to the region. And the U.S. involvement has to include encouraging Palestinians to move into a negotiating process.

But what Palestinian is going to step forward at the urging of a government that has just insulted his people? It will not help to

offer sophisticated explanations about the degraded state of American politics in a presidential election year.

Degraded is the word for all those involved in putting on the statute books the provision requiring closure of the PLO observer mission in New York and the Palestine Information Office in Washington. There has been a competition in political cheapness.

Some Jewish organisations led the way by demanding the closings. Candidates for president quickly jumped onto the bandwagon, among them Jack Kemp, Bob Dole, George Bush and Paul Simon.

Their sensitivity to the foreign policy consequences was indicated by a statement that Representative Kemp issued the other day in the mistaken belief that Attorney General Meese had already moved against the U.N. observer office: "This is truly a day of victory in America's fight to help put an end to terrorist organisations and terrorist perpetrators."

Closing the PLO mission at the United Nations will do precisely nothing to fight terrorism. In-

stead, there is no suggestion that anyone connected with the office has been involved in terrorism.

Politics is all that is involved. The New Republic magazine, which passionately supports Israel, summed it up as follows: "Support for shutting down the PLO's office at the United Nations in New York is a matter of sheer synchpanty to some Jewish groups themselves badly misguided."

Abraham D. Sofaer, the State Department's legal adviser, has understood the serious implications of this political foolishness. He has urged that action be held up, pending a legal ruling, lest American peace efforts in the Middle East be undermined. He sees the risk of damage to the interests of the United States and Israel.

Friends of Israel, if they are more than political showmen, know how urgently Israel needs to begin finding a way out of the impasse in the territories that it occupies. That way has to include talking to the people who live there. To damage that possibility is not just foolish. It is dangerous — The New York Times.

The army is a way of life in Bangladesh

By Earleene Fisher
The Associated Press

DHAKA, Bangladesh — In 1975, a young army major masterminded the assassination of Bangladesh's first president and launched a cycle of coups, killings and chaos that became the country's customary method of political change.

Farooq Rahman is now a retired army colonel who wants to be president himself. He does not rule out the possibility that he might lead another coup if he decides one is necessary.

Armed with immunity from prosecution for the previous coup and assassination, a steady income from his construction business in Libya and the firm belief that he is the best man to run the country, the 41-year-old former tank commander has emerged from the shadows after years of exile in Arab countries and detention at home.

His Freedom Party is running candidates for 110 of the 300 parliament seats at stake in the March 3 election, which President Hussain Mohammad Ershad called in an effort to placate a persistent but so far ineffective opposition campaign to force him out of office.

Farooq claims that in an honest election his party would win about 80 seats. But he adds: "In Third World countries, I never expect elections to be fair."

Farooq himself is not a candidate in the parliamentary elections, which the biggest opposition parties are boycotting.

Looking to the future

Instead, Farooq is looking to the future. The Freedom Party, founded last August, gives him a platform for his own presidential ambitions in 1991 when Ershad's term expires — or sooner if Ershad resigns or is removed. Although Farooq now dresses in blue jeans instead of uniforms, he is capitalising on his military image in a country where — for better or for worse — the army has been one of the few lasting social and political forces.

"A sword wielded by a good man is a good sword," Farooq said in an interview.

Each of the nine presidents in the 17 years since Bangladesh won independence from Pakistan in civil war was installed by military intervention. Ershad himself was a general in 1982 when he seized power in a bloodless coup, although four years later he resigned, won the presidency in an election the opposition called

fraudulent, and ended martial law.

When floods displaced one-quarter of Bangladesh's 105 million people last year, the army was mobilised for rescue and relief operations. Foreign diplomats and relief workers say it did a good job.

Lt.-Gen. Atiqur Rahman, the army chief of staff, said the army has been made a "scapegoat" by jealous civilians.

"Whenever we have tried to tackle a problem, any type of problem — floods or conducting inquiries during martial law — we have always done better than the civilian counterparts, which is not liked by them," said Atiq, a dapper, white-haired man with 37 years of military experience in the armies of Pakistan and Bangladesh.

Ershad using Farooq

Technically, Farooq's Freedom Party is an opposition party, since its parliament candidates are running against members of Ershad's Jatiya Party. But it was Ershad who facilitated Farooq's political rehabilitation by allowing him to return home openly in May 1986. Previous governments usually put him on the next plane out of the country.

Local and foreign analysts believe Ershad is using Farooq to frighten Sheikh Hasina, whose Awami League is the best-organised opposition party.

Hasina is the daughter of Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, the president whose assassination was ordered by Farooq. Her mother, three brothers, two sisters-in-law and an uncle also died in the coup, which installed Khandaker Moshtaque Ahmed in power.

Farooq still defends the assassination, which he orchestrated after Mujib had ended the multi-party system, suspended fundamental rights and placed himself beyond the jurisdiction of the courts.

"Sheikh Mujib was something like the head of the extortion mob. It was gangsterism type of politics," Farooq said.

Asked if he would stage a coup again, he said: "When it reaches such a limit. But I don't think it has. Mujib had reached such a limit."

Farooq, an energetic man with charismatic charm and a quick mind, offers one of the most detailed and articulate programmes for wrenching Bangladesh out of the poverty with an average annual income of \$150 for its people.

Hasina and the other chief opposition leader, Khaleda Zia of the Bangladesh Nationalist Party, tend to talk in generalities. They list "democracy, the will of the people" and "Ershad must go" as panaceas for their country's problems.

Farooq leaps into specifics.

Land of floods

"Look at the rivers of Bangladesh. One time you are flooded. Another time you don't have enough water," he said, jabbing at a map showing the scores of broad rivers that shred Bangladesh into ribbons of floodplains.

"What does it require? Canals. Look at the industrialisation of Europe: Canals. Why do we use trucks? Barges are cheaper. There are no river ports. Simple. Dams. Instead of dredging with machines we don't need, we do it

with manpower. Machine is a 20th century development. Bangladesh is 200 years behind."

Farooq said he was "picking up ideas from all over the world." He praised Japan for producing plenty of food in a small space, China for massive use of manpower.

Farooq said his country must be true to its Islamic heritage but should not espouse Iranian-style fundamentalism. He dismissed the idea that Hasina, who was tutored in politics from childhood, or Mrs. Zia, whose husband President Ziaur Rahman was assassinated in 1981, could govern a nation.

"Islam does not accept women as chief executives," he said. "It says so in the Koran."

Asked to cite a specific verse or scholarly interpretation, he gestured in exasperation and said, "well, it says so."

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Arabian gazelles roam the Shaumari Reserve

Preserving Jordan's wildlife

From Jordan Magazine

WHEN SOME of Jordan's rare species of wildlife began facing extinction several decades ago, many people feared that such animals as the Arabian oryx, the gazelle and the ostrich would one day completely disappear from their natural habitat in the eastern desert region. Happily, they have not. Thanks to the work of the Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature, supported by the deep interest of His Majesty King Hussein, Jordan's wild creatures have been given a new lease on life. Now, in natural reserves maintained under the protective eye of the RSCN, they are roaming the land again, safe from harm.

King Hussein, moved by his concern, personally sponsored the first scientific explorations of Jordan's wildlife and endangered species. The expeditions, comprehensive in scope, were carried out in 1963 and 1965 by a group of distinguished specialists led by Guy Mountfort, international trustee of the World Wildlife Fund, who later recorded the experience in his book, *Portrait of a Desert*. Soon after, in 1966, the Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature was founded, with King Hussein as its Honorary President.

Broadly defined, the Society's functions are to encourage and promote public interest in nature and to implement scientifically-based conservation projects. It is a member of the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources and collaborates closely with the World Wildlife Fund. Both international bodies support Jordan's conservation programme in a number of ways, especially in the area of technical assistance.

Through the years, backed by government legislation relevant to the protection of wildlife and the environment, the RSCN's programme for the creation of national parks, wildlife reserves and biological research stations has been making notable progress. Help has come from various sources. The reserves' fences, breeding pens and other facilities were built by the engineering corps of the Royal Jordanian Armed Forces; Sultan Qaboos of Oman and Sheikh Hamad Al Thani of Qatar generously contributed to the financing of RSCN projects; the World Wildlife Fund provided equipment and technical assistance, as well as many of the animals to be bred; and the Royal Jordanian Airline assumed responsibility for transporting the animals to Jordan from different countries around the world.

Wide range of activities
Engaged in a wide spectrum of activities, the Society is responsible for the conservation of all elements in nature, marine life and wild plants included. It is also concerned with safeguarding the environment — air, land and sea — from the dangers of pollution and represents Jordan at international conferences dealing with

the issue.

The RSCN's well-studied programme for the conservation of wildlife calls for the establishment of 10 natural reserves, which represent the various regions and climates of the country where different species of wildlife exist. So far, two have been created: The Shaumari Wildlife Reserve and the Azraq Wetland Reserve — both located in the Azraq Oasis area, some 117 kilometres east of Amman.

Shaumari, Jordan's most actively utilised reserve, was established in 1975 and is situated several kilometres south of Azraq, on semi-desert flatland at an elevation of 350 metres above sea level. It initially covered an area of 22 square kilometres, but since then has been expanded in size to 300 square kilometres. Once part of the expansive desert stretches over which the bedouins moved seasonally with their herds of sheep and camel, Shaumari now is a completely fenced-in, exclusive wildlife domain, free of wandering domestic animals and disruptive human intrusion; and its plant cover is now well on the way to regaining its full grazing potential and ecological balance. Several species of wild plants that were thought to have disappeared from Jordan are growing again at Shaumari.

Eighth-century frescoes of hunting scenes, found in the Umayyad castles that dot the eastern desert, indicate that the region was once home to several species of large animals, such as the cheetah, wild ass, wolf, gazelle and oryx. As recently as 1969, the presence of wolves was reliably recorded and another carnivore, the striped hyena, is still occasionally sighted at Shaumari.

Among the known animals in the area now are 11 species of mammals, from the larger common red wolf, striped hyena, wild cat and hare to the smaller jerboa, house mouse, gerbil and jird. While the mere presence of the Shaumari Wildlife Reserve has provided protection for this existing wildlife, the immediate and more difficult responsibility of the RSCN is to save the lost or endangered species of larger animals from extinction, by breeding them under scientifically controlled conditions and then reintroducing them into the wild again.

As its first challenge, the Royal Society chose the Arabian oryx, the biblical "unicorn," which by the 1920s had completely disappeared from Jordan. A graceful animal of the antelope species, the oryx is so cherished in the Arab World for the soulful beauty of its dark eyes that many parents give their daughters its Arabic name, *Maha*, which means "crystal" and derives from its pure white colour. It has a lifespan of 20-25 years, an incubation period of nine months and normally bears a single calf. A hardy desert creature, with two long, sharp horns to protect itself, the oryx can endure hunger and thirst for long periods and throughout history was able to

survive under the harshest of conditions. With the advent of firearms and hunting as a sport, however, its number steadily declined, to near extinction in some countries and complete disappearance in others. By the middle of this century, there were no more than 200 Arabian oryx left in the world.

To save the species, the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources in 1962 established the Arabian Oryx World Herd Trust, a commission vested with a single purpose: To undertake breeding of the oryx in captivity and reintroducing it into its natural habitat. The commission was able to obtain a nucleus herd — 8 from Oman, the U.S., Germany and Switzerland and 6 from Saudi Arabia and Qatar — which was divided among three zoos in the U.S. for supervised breeding.

The RSCN followed the project with much interest and, as soon as the Shaumari Reserve was operational, made its official request through the World Wildlife Fund for the reintroduction of the Arabian oryx to Jordan from those bred by the Oryx World Herd Trust. In 1978, after the completion of studies ensuring that all conditions were at an optimum level for the experiment, four male oryx were flown from the U.S. to Jordan — aboard Royal Jordanian — to be followed six months later by four females. Three other oryx, a gift from Qatar, had arrived earlier in the year; one of them, pregnant, gave birth to Shaumari's first baby oryx a few months later.

Over the following years, the RSCN succeeded in breeding the original 11 animals into a healthy herd of 31. Sufficiently strengthened in number, the oryx family was now ready to "go out into the world" on its own. And on October 18, 1983, after an absence of 60 years, the Arabian oryx was reintroduced into the wild of Shaumari Reserve. King Hussein and Queen Noor personally effected the release in an official ceremony that was attended by Prince Philip, the Duke of Edinburgh, in his personal capacity and as president of the World Wildlife Fund, and by a large gathering of RSCN and government officials. Since then, year by year, the oryx herd at Shaumari Reserve has been growing in number and at last count included 73 head: 41 females and 32 males.

Other animals bred
Gradually, other species of wildlife are returning to Shaumari. The RSCN has been breeding other animals on its endangered list, such as the gazelle, the wild ass and the ostrich. There are now more than 20 Arabian gazelles roaming Shaumari; and in the breeding pens, still under watchful eye, are the progenitors of what will hopefully become self-sufficient herds of wild ass and ostrich. Mistreatment, however, does occur. The male of Shaumari's first pair of ostrich, for instance, made the fatal mistake of sitting on a sand

adder, and a replacement for the long-necked, flightless bird had to be brought in.

The Azraq Wetland Wildlife Reserve is much smaller in size than Shaumari. Covering about 12 square kilometres of pools, marshes, water meadows and silt dunes lying at the heart of the southern portion of Azraq Oasis, it is an ideally situated bird sanctuary, where more than 300 species of the winged creatures, most of them migrants, have been recorded. As the only permanent body of water in 46,000 square kilometres of desert, Azraq Oasis is a vitally important rest station for the millions of birds who each year fly through Jordan on their unchanging migratory path between Eastern Africa and Eurasia.

In 1983, when Dr. Bryan Nelson, world-known ornithologist and former director of the Azraq Biological Station, visited Azraq again after an absence of 14 years, he described the changes he found. Making special reference to the addition of a "magnificent" government rest house at Azraq and its attraction as "an ideal base" for birdwatching tours, he said:

"Probably few foreign tour operators are even aware of its existence, let alone its excellence. Azraq is routinely included in Jordanian information hand-outs as a place for birdwatching, but few (except ornithologists 'in the know') have any idea what the place is like, where to go, and where to stay. Superficially, they may see only the highway and some scattered buildings. In reality, with Shaumari, the Wetland Reserve, and the government rest house, there are all the makings of a good birding holiday. On the fringes of the marsh, within a short walk of the village, one enters a totally different world...in the evening light, the shallow lagoons were alive with birds: shoveler, teal, wigeon, shelduck, stilts, green sand-pipers, plovers, black terns, and many more."

Azraq is, in fact, Jordan's water bird kingdom. Fifteen species of ducks occur there and in winter their combined number sometimes exceeds 200,000. There are seven different herons and egrets, as well as white pelicans, spoonbills, glossy ibises, flamingos, cranes and many other large birds. And at the height of the migratory season, almost all of the 32 species of small warblers recorded in Jordan may be seen at Azraq.

The surrounding Jordan desert provides many examples of the remarkable adaptation of birds to extreme conditions of heat and aridity. The sandgrouse, for example, fly great distances every day to drink. As their nestlings cannot survive without water, the parents provide it by soaking their own belly-feathers in the Azraq pools before flying back to their thirsty chicks. No other birds have this unique feather-structure enabling them to carry water in this manner. In its work to conserve Jordan's wildlife, the Royal Society



Azraq Oasis, the only permanent body of water in 46,000 square kilometres of desert, is Jordan's water bird kingdom and also a vitally important rest station for millions of migratory birds. More than 300

species of the winged creatures have been recorded in the vicinity of pools, marshes and water meadows.

also is responsible for the regulation of hunting in Jordan, a function delegated to it by the Ministry of Agriculture. This includes the establishment of hunting quotas in relation to the availability of surplus game-bird populations and the on-going inspection of the defined hunting areas for law enforcement purposes. It issues hunting licenses and provides information on Jordan's wildlife and hunting regulations at its offices in Amman; and at Azraq, it maintains a lodge that can accommodate up to 30 guests.

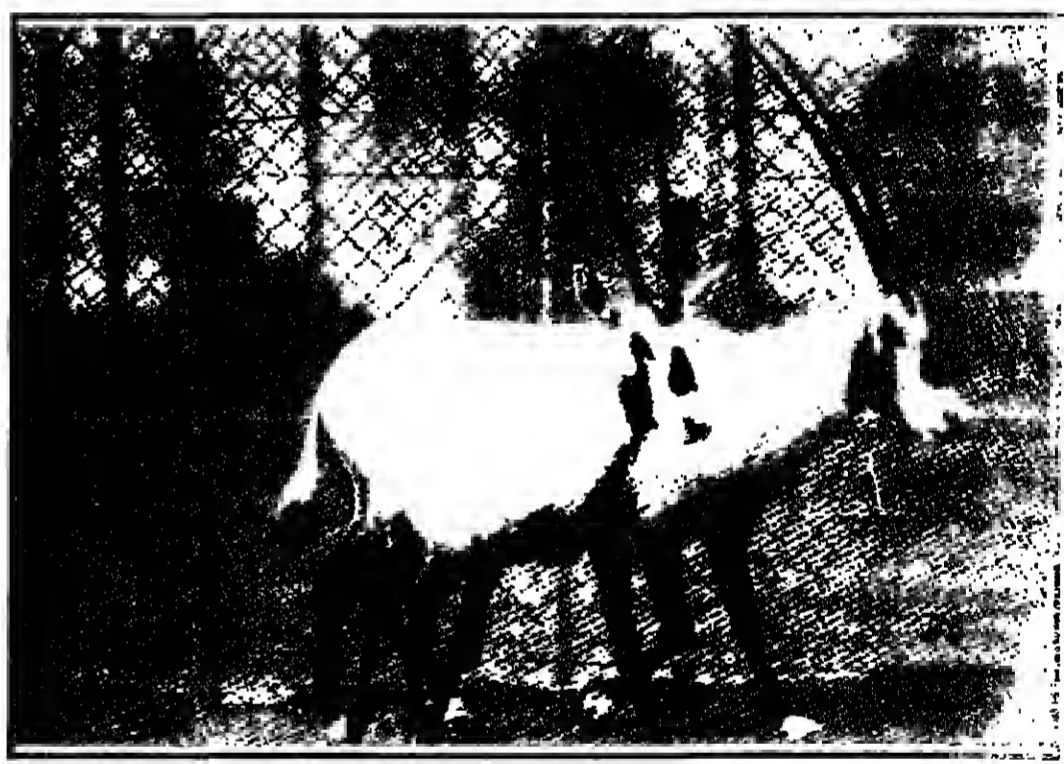
The Royal Society, a privately constituted body, has more than 250 members and is headed by Anis Mousasher as president. All, from its actively engaged officials and staff to its general membership, are committed in their love and respect for nature. To enlist wider interest and support, the Society produces informational material designed to educate the public on the importance of its conservation programme. In addition to the publication of various pamphlets and booklets on Jordan's wildlife and marine life, it issues *Al Reem*, a quarterly magazine that is edited by Dr. Kamel Abu Jaber, secretary general of the RSCN. Another of its ongoing activities is the preparation of audio-visual programmes on nature and the environment for use by the conservation clubs that have been formed in schools around the country.

Jordan, in common with all other countries of the world, faces the serious problem of equating the needs of its wildlife and environment with the mounting national requirement for expansion in agriculture, industry and urban development. Recognising the challenge, both the government of Jordan and the Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature are aware that if the bountiful beauties of nature are to survive, this equation can only be brought about through wise compromise. Determined to prevent the thoughtless losses of the past, they view the protection of Jordan's wildlife and environment as an imperative not to be ignored.



Eighth-century Umayyad fresco (above) shows abundance of wildlife in the desert region during ancient times. The Arabian oryx (below), bred in

captivity roams the land again after an absence of 60 years.



King reaffirms rejection of partial solutions to Mideast conflict

(Continued from page 1)

inherent right to national identity and self-determination. For 20 years now, in violation of every international principle of justice, Israel has persisted in the occupation of an entire land seized by force, to which it has absolutely no moral or legal right, and which it insists on claiming as its own.

"The recent uprising in the West Bank, Gaza and the Golan Heights has taught us once again that injustice left unredressed breeds a festering anger that inevitably erupts into violence. Experience has also taught us that every conflict left unresolved sows the seeds of wider and greater confrontation, deepening the wounds of injustice, victimising the innocent, and multiplying the forces of resent-

ment. Through the years, we have cautioned and warned of the widening cycle of frustration and anger that would spill beyond the origin of the conflict and far beyond the territories in dispute. We need only reflect on the tragic sequence of events in Lebanon over the past 12 years to recognise how readily the Arab-Israeli conflict can serve as the catalyst of turmoil and violence.

"If we are to avert further disaster, there is only one choice — to marshal all our strength behind an immediate move toward peace. From the parties directly involved in the dispute, the challenge will require reciprocal accommodation, good will and trust. Effectively, it will require an active, unbiased mediation effort, equitably guided by the mechanism of the United Nations and supported by its

international provision of the security guarantees upon which a just and lasting settlement will depend.

"In Security Council Resolution 242, the United Nations 20 years ago achieved a noteworthy political endeavour: It established a just, viable and universally accepted basis for a peaceful settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict. The principles of peace it embodies are rooted in the concept of the return of territory in exchange for peace, mutual recognition and security. They were reaffirmed several years later in Security Council Resolution 338, which made a second international call for their implementation. These principles, unanimously adopted by the Council, have been accepted by every party to the conflict.

"The current Palestinian uprising

against Israeli occupation, which has been increasing in intensity day by day, is a stark reminder to all that the status quo cannot and must not be allowed to continue. Surely, Israel must realise that its brutal military measures against the West Bank and Gaza population, its deportation of more and more Palestinians, its building of additional settlements in the occupied territories, will only drive Palestinians into deeper agony and resentment and strengthen their opposition to the occupation. It will also seriously endanger the hope of future coexistence between Arabs and Israelis. Time is running out; now, more than ever before, the key to peace lies in firm, activated recognition of the human and political aspirations of the Palestinian people."

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Arsenal survives Manchester United, moves to quarter-finals

LONDON (R) — Arsenal survived a second half onslaught by Manchester United to emerge 2-1 victors and earn a quarter-final place in the F.A. Cup Saturday.

But United, who fought back desperately after being two down at half-time, had only themselves to blame for not snatching a late equaliser.

Striker Brian McClair, who had earlier put the northern club back in the game with a superbly struck goal seven minutes after the interval, committed the cardinal sin of blasting a penalty wide of the goal.

In other fifth-round ties, Nottingham Forest won 1-0 at Birmingham to boost their celebrated manager Brian Clough's ambitions of making an impact on the tournament for the first time and Wimbledon were impressive 3-1 winners at Newcastle.

Cup favourites Liverpool were playing Stooday, making the short trip to meet city rivals Everton.

Arsenal took a deserved lead in the 21st minute when Alan Smith scored his 10th goal of the season. Fullback Nigel Winterburn set up the chance when he surged forward and his cross to the far post was neatly headed in by Smith.

Four minutes before the interval, the London club went further ahead when Mike Duxbury, restored to the United line-up in

place of injured England captain Bryan Robson, headed the ball into his own net.

As United's army of travelling fans urged their team forward, the visitors created at least five clearcut chances to equalise but missed all of them, including McClair's last-gasp penalty.

Joining Arsenal in the quarter-finals of the prestigious knockout competition were Nottingham Forest, Portsmouth and Wimbledon from Division One, and Manchester City from Division Two.

Forest won 1-0 at Birmingham, Portsmouth trounced Bradford City 3-0, Wimbledon scored an unexpected 3-1 victory at Newcastle and Manchester City beat Plymouth by the same score.

Third Division Port Vale, which caused the shock of the competition in the previous round by knocking out Tottenham Hotspur, almost put paid to another First Division team. But visiting Watford held out for a 0-0 draw. Queens Park Rangers and Luton also replay next week after drawing 1-1.

Unfancied Portsmouth put aside the financial problems

which are threatening their very future to notch its confident 3-0 win over Bradford and move into the quarter-finals for the first time since 1952.

A Noel Blake header put them in the lead after 15 minutes. Terry Connor scored the second after 53 minutes and Mick Quinn put the issue beyond doubt with a third goal seven minutes from the end.

There was some joy for Manchester with City gaining its deserved 3-1 home victory over Plymouth.

In an explosive start, Ian Scott put City ahead when he finished off a superb four-man move after Andy Hinchcliffe had sent Ian McNab away. His centre found David White whose shot was only parried by goalkeeper Steve Cherry and Scott was on hand to ram the ball home.

City remained on top and a shot hit the Plymouth upright in the second half before Paul Simpson blasted home a fierce shot after another fine centre by McNab.

Plymouth hit back to reduce the arrears with a goal by Tommy Tynan but as they pushed forward looking for the equaliser, substitute Paul Moulden cut through from the halfway line to slot home City's third two minutes into injury time.



ICE HOCKEY ACTION AT CALGARY: Norway's Vernon Mott (left) contests himself to avoid a collision with

Viatcheslav Bykov of the Soviet Union; Czech Jaromir Sidel, centre, kicks out a shot by West Germany, and Austria's Brian Stankiewicz, is helped by teammates

and getting his face bloodied when hit by a stick during a match against the U.S.

W. Germany gets its first gold; Soviets increase lead

CALGARY (Agencies) — West German skier Marina Kiehl overtook the odds and hurtled from downhill obscurity to the threshold of Olympic stardom Friday.

Her magnificent but surprising triumph in the premier women's alpine event has left her poised to claim a place among the great Olympians.

For with the downhill gold safely won, Kiehl will start among the favourites in the super-giant slalom and giant slalom.

list in the 70-metre jump. "I don't want to criticise the organisers for not putting up wind screens, but the wind blows hard here. It's the worst thing about this hill."

The "Flying Finn" could become the first jumper in Olympic history to sweep all events.

Britain's one-man ski jumping team — Eddie "the Eagle" Edwards — was favoured to finish last in the 90-metre event following a last-place showing on the 70-metre hill. Yet his hapless style has captured the public im-

MEDAL TABLE

CALGARY (AP) — Total medals after events Friday, fifth full day of competition at the Winter Olympics:

Nation	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
The Soviet Union	5	4	4	13
East Germany	4	3	1	8
Switzerland	1	2	1	4
Finland	2	0	1	3
West Germany	1	1	1	3
The Netherlands	0	2	1	3
Austria	1	1	0	2
Czechoslovakia	0	1	1	2
Norway	0	1	1	2
Sweden	1	0	0	1
Canada	0	0	1	1
France	0	0	1	1
Japan	0	0	1	1
The United States	0	0	1	1

Czechs win berth in ice hockey medal round

CALGARY (AP) — Czechoslovakia, the 1984 silver medalist, clinched a spot in the Olympic hockey medal round Friday with a 4-0 victory over winless Austria.

The Czechs, 3-1, took the lead on the game's first shot at 1:44 of the opening period on Miroslav Horava's first goal of the Olympics.

Jaromir Sidel, the second-leading goalie at the 1984 Winter Games behind Vladislav Tretiak of the Soviet gold medalists, kept the fourth-seeded Czechs ahead with some brilliant saves against the aggressive Austrians, 0-4.

At Sarajevo, Sidel gave up just nine goals in six games, but two of them came in the 2-0 loss to the Soviet Union in the gold-medal game. In its final opening-round game, Czechoslovakia plays the Soviet Union Sunday.

The top three teams from each of the six-team groups reach the medal round. Czechoslovakia has come back from an opening loss to West Germany by beating the United States, Norway and Austria.

Rummenigge lifts Bayern Munich over Mannheim

BONN (AP) — Michael Rummenigge's goal lifted Bayern Munich to a 2-1 (1-1) win over Waldhof Mannheim during action Saturday in the Bundesliga, West Germany's first soccer division.

In other games among the league-leading teams, third-place Cologne and VfL Bochum tied 2-2 (1-1), while first-place Werder Bremen could manage only a 0-0 draw against 1 FC Kaiserslautern.

Mannheim's Manfred Bockendorf scored in the ninth minute to give his hometown team a 1-0 lead against Munich.

But with 23,000 people watching, Hans Pfoegler scored for the second-place Bavarians in the 41st minute and Rummenigge followed up with his goal seven minutes from the last whistle.

Tooy Woodcock of Britain scored in the 80th minute to give Cologne its draw with Bochum before a hometown audience of 13,000.

Stephan Engels put Cologne on the board first, with a goal in the ninth minute. But Bochum's Lotar Woelk tallied five minutes later.

The other Bochum goal came from Uwe Lefeld, in the 51st minute.

In Bremen, the host team played an aggressive game but Kaiserslautern played an even tougher defence and gave Bremen few scoring opportunities.

In other games, it was: "Borussia Dortmund 3, FC Homburg 0 (2-0) 1; FC Nuremberg 2, Bayer 04, Leverkusen 1 (1-0); Eintracht Frankfurt 3, Bayer Uerdingen 1 (0-0); Schalke 04 3, Karlsruher SC 1 (1-0); Hannover 96 3, Hamburger SV 1 (0-0); and VfB Stuttgart 1, Borussia Moenchengladbach 0 (0-0).

Young Italians trounce Soviets 4-1 at Bari

BARI, Italy (R) — Sampdoria striker Gianluca Vialli scored twice in the first half as a rejuvenated Italian side crushed the Soviet Union 4-1 in a soccer friendly Saturday.

The match was regarded by both sides as an important part of preparations for the European Championship finals in West Germany in June, although the two teams are in separate groups.

Italy, fielding their youngest team in years, went ahead in the seventh minute when Vialli glided into the area and past Soviet goalkeeper Rinat Dasaev who tripped him in desperation.

Milan's Franco Baresi converted the penalty.

But the Soviet Union, who left their 1986 European Footballer of the Year Igor Belanov on the bench for the entire first half, struck back 11 minutes later.

Baresi was culprit this time, felling Oleg Protasov on the edge of the area. Vagiz Khidiyatulin tapped the ensuing free-kick to Gennady Litovchenko who hit the ball into the net.

Vialli, one of the most dynamic forwards Italy have produced in ages, inspired his team when they

might have faltered against the Soviet Union's determined comeback.

His 30th minute first goal was sheer opportunism, running onto a pass from Roma's Giancarlo Giannini and driving a shot past Dasaev into the top right of the net.

The second, five minutes later, was the just reward for his tireless energy, beating Dasaev despite being under pressure from the Soviet defence.

Vialli limped off the pitch in the closing minutes of the first half but the 3-1 margin galvanised Italy into action.

Their play took on a polish rarely seen in recent matches, giving heart to manager Azeplio Vicini who had said before the game that his main priority was experimenting with youngsters before the 1990 World Cup, which Italy hosts.

The Soviet Union brought on Belanov for the second half in place of Protasov but could do little to turn the tide and Italian captain Giuseppe Bergomi made it 4-1 in the 87th minute with a close-range header.

Call for ban on British soldiers from soccer matches sparks row

LONDON (AP) — Britain's armed services reacted angrily Friday to a call for their troops stationed in West Germany to be barred from attending next summer's European championship soccer finals.

English Football association chief Bert Millichip said the presence of the troops could lead to hooliganism at England's first-round matches in Stuttgart, Dusseldorf and Frankfurt in June, and to a fresh ban on English clubs playing in Europe.

Millichip said Thursday he was worried that British troops stationed to West Germany would be able to buy last-minute tickets and sit among the opposing team supporters.

"The military hierarchy does not seem to understand the problems and unless they are prepared to listen to our advice I believe there should be a total ban on military men going to European championship matches," Millichip said.

But an armed forces spokesman said in London Millichip "does not know what he is talking about."

"There is no history of British forces in Germany being involved in any trouble at football matches," said the spokesman, who asked not to be identified.

"Our people are not the spiky-haired types who wear Union Jack trousers and leather jackets," the spokesman said.

1988 WINTER OLYMPICS

Only three women have ever won two alpine golds at the same games. No-one has ever won three. Kiehl, with the hardest title already secure, has a real chance of the hat-trick.

East Germany woo the meo's doubles title on the seventh day of competition to complete a sweep of all three loge golds for the third time.

Joerg Hoffmann and Jochen Pietzsch won the pairs crown as the East Germans, for whom Steffi Walter and Jens Muller triumphed in the men's and women's singles, repeated their Sapporo and Innsbruck successes of 1972 and 1976.

The only other medal to be decided went to the Soviet Union, Mikhail Deviatarov continuing their Nordic skiing grip with victory in the meo's 15 kilometre cross-country race in another Olympic record — the fourth in as many events at canmore.

The Soviets also continued their march towards another ice hockey gold by claiming the first medal-round berth with a solid 6-3 win over West Germany to maintain their 100 per cent record.

With Deviatarov's win the Soviet Union increased its medal total to 13, eight of them in cross-country skiing. The Soviets have five golds, four silver and four bronze, more than any other country in each category. East Germany is second with eight medals, six of them in luge. The East Germans have four golds, three silvers and a bronze.

Ski jump delayed.

Matti Nykanen, the "Flying Finn," was to have gone after his second gold of the games Saturday. But officials postponed the 90-metre individual ski jump until Monday because gusting winds were forecast for the weekend.

The treacherous winds previously caused the 90-metre team jump to be postponed six days until next Wednesday.

"All this waiting is very stressful," said Nykanen, gold medal-

ist in the 70-metre jump. "I don't want to criticise the organisers for not putting up wind screens, but the wind blows hard here. It's the worst thing about this hill."

agitation. Edwards' bespectacled face has appeared on T-shirts and a poster. A vodka company wants him to pose for its glamour girl calendar. A cigar company wants him to its ads. Fans want his autograph and reporters seek him out for interviews.

But Edwards could be denied a shot at gold — for his own safety. Organisers said Edwards may not be allowed to compete unless conditions are perfect.

Women's downhill

The women's downhill went ahead despite strong winds and Kiehl, who has won six world cup super-giant slaloms in her career, soaked victory after being almost totally overlooked as a potential gold medalist.

She beat Swiss Brigitte Oertli by a commanding 0.75 of a second while Kareo Percy, col-

lected the bronze to claim Canada's first medal. Defending Champion Michela Figini was ninth while fellow-Swiss Maria Walliser, current world champion and silver medalist four years ago, was fourth.

Kiehl needs one more gold to earn her place alongside Switzerland's Marie-Theres Nadig, downhill and giant-slamom champion in 1972, and Liechtenstein's Hansi Wenzel, slalom and giant-slamom winner eight years ago.

But the West German will most want to go one better than compatriot Rosi Mittermaier. She won the downhill and slalom in 1976, but missed the treble when Canadian Kathy Kreiner edged

her out by 0.13 of a second in the giant slalom.

On Saturday, Brian gracefully battles Brian for the figure-skating gold, and Monaco's Prince Albert adds a touch of jetset glamour to the Olympic bobsled run.

The men's figure-skating contest between Brian Boitano of the United States and Brian Orser of Canada was to be decided in 4½ minutes — the length of time allotted to each for free-skating in the long programme Saturday night.

The 24-year-old Boitano held a slim, overall lead after the compulsory and short programmes.

Top Soviet aces may be allowed to play in NHL

CALGARY (R) — Soviet stars could make history by playing in North America's National Hockey League (NHL) this year, a senior ice hockey official said Friday.

Alan Eagleson, executive director of the NHL Players Association, said Soviet ice hockey officials were pursuing the plan as part of Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev's policy of perestroika (reconstruction) and glasnost (openness).

Eagleson told a news conference that after the Winter Olympics the Soviet ice hockey federation would supply a list of players to be allowed to play in the NHL.

"They are anxious for currency and they realise there is a lot of money for the federation," Eagleson said.

Each player could earn between \$150,000 and \$200,000 for the federation, which would also receive a large proportion of their salaries, he added.

Eagleson said NHL President John Ziegler and Soviet officials were holding talks in Calgary

during the Winter Olympics. "I think prior to the 1988-89 season, you can be assured there will be Soviet players with NHL clubs," he said.

The New Jersey Devils already have an option on Soviet captain Viatcheslav Fetisov and his partner in defence, Alexei Kasatonov, who starred in Wednesday's 7-5 win over the U.S., Eagleson said.

"I am convinced that if the Soviet Union wins the gold here, Kasatonov and Fetisov will be rewarded and allowed to join the New Jersey Devils," he added.

Fetisov, considered the world's best defenceman, will be 30 in April and Kasatonov is 28. They have had talks in Calgary with the Devils general manager, Lou Lamoriello, via the Soviet federation, Eagleson said.

"They know we want them, but we have to see what comes out of these talks," Lamoriello told Reuters this week.

Eagleson said that if the pair were allowed to join the Devils, they would first return to the

Soviet Union to resign from the Red Army.

He said the size of salaries for Soviet players joining the NHL was a matter for the clubs, but asked: "What is worth for the Devils to make the (NHL) playoffs? If I was the Vancouver Canucks and could get (Igor) Larionov and (Vladimir) Krutov, I would give up half my club."

But he said he believed that only older players would be allowed to join the NHL, which would rule out Larionov and Krutov, two of the national team's best young forwards.

"They will probably be players

who are in the 32-34 age group, who are past their best."

As well as the possibility of Soviet players joining the NHL, the Calgary talks have also drawn up a provisional plan under which two NHL teams would train in the Soviet Union in 1989 and play several games against top Soviet clubs.

The Soviets have also agreed to send two teams to North America in December 1989 and two more in January 1990 to play NHL clubs, though the NHL has still to decide whether these games would count in the league standings.

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PUBLIC SECURITY DIRECTORATE DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGNERS' AFFAIRS AND BORDERS ANNOUNCEMENT

The Department of Foreigners' Affairs and Borders announces to all foreigners who did not renew their annual residence permits, to check with the nearest police station in order to renew their residence permits within one month from this date. Strict measures of deportation will be taken against anyone who violates this order.

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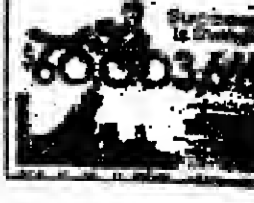


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سنة ١٩٨٨

Jordan considers pilot farming project at arid Wadi Araba

By Samaleh B. Ne'matt
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The government is studying a proposal for a pioneering agricultural project that would cultivate 75,000 dunums in Wadi Araba at an estimated cost of \$175 million, the Ministry of Planning told the Jordan Times Saturday.

According to the proposal put forward by a Jordanian company in joint venture with several foreign firms, the government would lease the land to the company which would cultivate it for the production of different farming products.

The project would use the latest farming technologies, including the utilisation of solar and wind energies. Irrigation water would be obtained from the Red

Sea after a desalination process at a special treatment plant to be set up for that purpose.

Mu'az Al Tabbar, head of the Agricultural Production Department at the Ministry of Planning said that if endorsed, the project is expected to reduce the country's energy bill and minimise the problem of pollution that accompanies such large projects.

The Amman-based International Triangular Establishment for Agriculture and Trade, in joint venture with the British Stichting Aquarius Foundation, presented the proposal to the government last September.

A committee, comprising six Cabinet members and Central Bank Governor Hussein Qasem, was recently set up to study the project. The committee is headed by Finance Minister Hanna Odeh

and includes the ministers of energy and natural resources; agriculture; planning; water and irrigation; industry and trade and the minister of state for prime ministry affairs.

Industry and Trade Minister Hamdi Tabbara said recently the government was discussing the financing part of the project with representatives of the firms taking part in the joint venture. He said the project is designed so as not to compete with existing local farm products.

Minister sees positive factors for economy in Jordan

AMMAN (J.T.) — Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs Fayez Tarawneh said Friday that there have been lately some positive developments in the Middle East region which are bound to reflect favourably on the Jordanian economy.

In a lecture to the Alumni Club of the University of Southern California in Jordan, Tarawneh said that the inter-ethnic tendency towards ending the Arab-Israeli conflict, the efforts by His Majesty King Hussein to present the Palestine cause to the world community and the uprising of the Palestinian people in the occupied territories as well as U.N. Security Council resolution 598 on ending the Gulf conflict are all beneficial factors that augur well for the Jordanian economy.

Tarawneh said that the country has been affected by an economic recession in the early 1980s and by an ongoing Gulf war but he was certain that the Jordanian economy was based on a firm foundation.

The Jordanian economy is based on free enterprise and private initiative and is characterised also by close cooperation by the private and the public sectors which aim at increasing the volume and improving the quality of local production, Tarawneh noted.

He said that the two sectors have been cooperating in handling investments, increasing exports, introducing modernisation in the civil service system and upgrading the work of various organisations.

Tarawneh drew attention to the weak points in the economy — mainly the problem of unemployment which, he said, came as a result of an imbalance between demand and supply. He called for regional planning to be coordinated with sectoral planning.

He also urged the fair distribution of profits accruing from development schemes.

A long debate, tackling various aspects of the Jordanian economy and Jordan's economic relations with the rest of the world, followed the lecture.

AMMAN FINANCIAL MARKET

AMMAN (J.T.) — The following table summarises trading activities at the Amman Financial Market during the week starting Saturday, Feb. 13, '88 and ending Wednesday, Feb. 17, '88. (Figures in Jordanian dinars).

Name of company	Number of shares	Volume of trade	Opening price	Closing price	Per value
Banking and financial institutions					
Industrial Development Bank	4650	6027	1.290	1.290	1.000
Petra Bank	9896	20287	2.150	2.050	1.000
Jordan Islamic Bank	150	277	1.850	1.840	1.000
Jordan Kuwait Bank	9784	16163	1.660	1.630	1.000
Jordan Gulf Bank	1140	1336	1.170	1.170	1.000
Housing Bank	100	159	1.590	1.590	1.000
Arab Jordan Investment Bank	1175	2463	2.100	2.100	1.000
Cairo Amman Bank	4760	133316	27.500	28.500	5.000
Bank of Jordan	2932	47974	16.300	16.400	5.000
Arab Bank	590	71000	121.000	119.000	10.000
Jordan National Bank	940	2284	2.430	2.430	1.000
Jordan Finance House for Development	2450	2965	1.220	1.210	1.000
Jordan Investment and Finance Corporation	9700	13417	1.900	1.870	1.000
Finance and Credit Corporation	15087	8255	0.650	0.630	1.000
National Financial Investments	12700	19050	1.520	1.500	1.000
National Portfolio Securities	7750	5991	0.770	0.780	1.000
Arab Finance Corporation (Jordan)	—	—	—	—	1.000
Real Estate Financing Corporation	—	—	—	—	2.000
Al Mashrek Exchange	—	—	—	—	10.000
Insurance and reinsurance					
Jordan French Insurance	17195	106368	6.290	5.430	1.000
REFCO Life Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
Arab Life and Accident Insurance	600	599	1.000	1.000	1.000
Jarmanik Insurance and Reinsurance	3250	3575	1.100	1.100	1.000
Holy Land Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
Philadelphia Insurance	400	276	0.690	0.690	1.000
Arab Union International Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jerusalem Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Gulf Insurance	750	710	0.920	0.950	1.000
Universal Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
General Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Eagle Insurance	—	—	—	—	10.000
Middle East Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
Al-Udhayr Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
National Ahliya Insurance	200	256	1.300	1.280	1.000
Arab Belgian Insurance and Reinsurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
Services and industries					
General Investments	500	650	1.300	1.300	1.000
Imma for Housing and Financial Facilities	7315	4535	0.630	0.620	1.000
Darco for Housing and Investment	34010	14997	0.440	0.450	1.000
Real Estate Investment (Aqaro)	28933	12840	0.430	0.440	1.000
Jordan Gulf Real Estate Investment	5732	1898	0.330	0.330	1.000
Jordan Leasing Corporation	72	45	0.630	0.630	1.000
Petra Enterprises and Leasing Equipments	908267	186287	0.640	0.710	1.000
Equipment Leasing & Maintenance/Ta'jeero	58399	20841	0.810	0.860	1.000
Jordanian Electric Power	6351	9381	1.470	1.470	1.000
Irbid District Electricity	100	98	0.970	0.980	1.000
Arab International Hotels	—	—	—	—	1.000
Hotels and Tourism	—	—	—	—	1.000
Garage Owners Federation Office	2024	8198	4.200	4.050	1.000
Jordan National Shipping Lines	57705	51321	0.810	0.880	1.000
Jordan Press Foundation	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Press and Publishing	—	—	—	—	1.000
Dar Al Shab Press, Printing and Publishing	122500	52032	0.400	0.430	1.000
Jordan Dairy	3607	3688	1.040	1.020	1.000
Arab Pharmaceutical Manufacturing	14334	31014	2.160	2.160	1.000
Intermediate Petrochemical Industries	120148	174005	1.480	1.470	1.000
Jordan Phosphate Mines	4207	10096	2.400	2.390	1.000
Industrial, Commercial and Agricultural (Inta)	6862	10370	1.510	1.500	1.000
Arab Chemical Detergent Industries	13279	59990	4.560	4.450	1.000
Jordan Kuwait for Agricultural Products	—	—	—	—	1.000
Aladdin Industries	30260	40756	1.320	1.360	1.000
Arab Aluminium Manufacturing	197890	389297	1.920	1.950	1.000
Jordan Worems Mills	802	3609	4.500	4.500	1.000
Jordan Ceramics	1324	1377	1.060	1.040	1.000
Chemical Industries	75343	138466	1.800	1.740	1.000
Jordan Industries and Match (JIMCO)	32600	24375	0.750	0.740	1.000
Dar Al Dawa' for Development and Investment	30302	48236	1.540	1.570	1.000
National Steel Industries	90415	244290	2.660	2.690	1.000
Universal Chemical Industries	136700	268807	1.860	1.970	5.000
General Mining	1110	1632	1.500	1.000	1.000
Jordan Petroleum Refinery	43022	301500	7.200	7.140	1.000
Jordan Lime & Brick	185550	39304	0.220	0.210	1.000
National Industries	2574	1287	0.500	0.500	1.000
Arab Paper Converting and Trading	50275	18093	0.330	0.380	1.000
Jordan Wooden Industries (JWICO)	25470	34994	1.340	1.300	1.000
Livestock and Poultry	1115	803	0.720	0.720	1.000
Jordan Pipes Manufacturing	43836	55205	1.150	1.240	1.000
Kafsa Industrial for Plastic Bags	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Paper and Cardboard	3790	11562	3.000	3.100	1.000
Jordan Rockwool Industries	126050	86955	0.670	0.690	1.000
Trans-Jordan Minerals Research	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Humeil Mineral	—	—	—	—	1.000
Orient Dry Batteries Factory	—	—	—	—	1.000
Woolen Industries	10389	9262	0.700	0.860	1.000
Jordan Tanning	—	—	—	—	5.000
Jordan Printing and Packaging	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Tobacco and Cigarette	54	729	13.500	13.500	1.000
Mas Industries	—	—	—	—	1.000
Arab Center for Pharmaceuticals & Chemicals	—	—	—	—	1.000
National Cable & Wire Manufacturing	128400	128516	0.980	1.020	1.000
Jordan Spinning & Weaving	53592	50214	0.930	0.940	1.000
Jordan Sulpho Chemicals	67922	187217	3.090	3.000	1.000
Jordan Cement Factories	140226	149270	1.030	1.050	1.000
Jordan Glass Industries	22200	23642	1.070	1.040	1.000
Grand total	2,999,847	3,374,452			

Jordan expands farming subsidies

AMMAN (Petra + J.T.) — The Ministry of Agriculture will provide financial help to local farmers to encourage them to increase production and abide by the agricultural pattern system, Agriculture Minister Marwan Humud announced Saturday.

Humud said that farmers growing their vegetables in Jordan Valley lands irrigated by rivers and lakes will receive JD 10 subsidy from the Ministry of Agriculture for every dunum of land they plant with marrows or eggplants in the 1987-1988 agricultural season.

Farmers growing either of the two crops in the high regions will receive JD 15 for every dunum provided, in either case, these farmers were adhering to the agricultural pattern system.

The ministry will also offer local producers of cereals or animal feed JD 10 for each dunum of land in the 1988-1989 agricultural season provided that the land sown with cereals was no less in area than one quarter of the total cultivated land, the minister noted.

The farmers will be encouraged to abide by the "crop-rotation" system which is needed to safeguard land fertility and prevent pests from settling in farms thus, reducing the volume of products, the minister added.

He said that the ministry's move is also designed to make available more quantities of cereals and animal feed and to meet the Jordanian market's needs of meat and dairy products.

Humud announced that the government has decided to continue purchasing locally produced cereals as well as potatoes, onions, garlic and tomatoes used for processing into tomato paste.

The minister expected the government to pay JD 2.5 million in annual subsidies to local farmers in implementation of this policy.

Humud said in an interview published Saturday that the Ministry of Agriculture has conducted a detailed study regarding farmers' debts and submitted proposals to the cabinet for a solution.

Humud said that Jordanian farmers now have a total of JD 38 million in debt to various credit institutions in the country and farmers hope that loans and interests would be rescheduled and paid in instalment.

He said that the application of the agricultural pattern system in Jordan has greatly helped in controlling production and reducing the margin of surpluses that could not have been marketed here or abroad.

Jordan Valley Farmers Association (JVFA) President Adel Shamaileh had earlier painted a gloomy picture of the situation.

He said that the government has failed so far to find a venue for marketing the local products which have been produced in large quantities due to the employment of modern equipment and techniques.

Shamaileh also said that farmers had been hoping that Jordan, through contracts and agreements with other countries, will be able to increase its agricultural exports but that they have been deeply disappointed.

Jordan, Iraq set up joint detergent firm

AMMAN (Petra + J.T.) — Jordan and Iraq Saturday announced the creation of an eight million Iraqi dinar company for producing chemical detergents to be based in Baghdad.

The announcement was made at a general assembly meeting of the Jordanian-Iraqi Industry Company held at the Ministry of Industry and Trade in Amman.

Industry, Trade and Supply Minister Hamdi Tabbara and Iraqi Industry Minister Hatem Abdul Rashid signed the documents setting up the new company.

An official announcement said that the two sides have agreed on measures for implementing the project and they also discussed a feasibility study on a joint company for the production of pesticides.

The company, the announcement said, will be producing much needed pesticides for Jordan, Iraq and the Arab World.

Following the signing ceremony, Tabbara told the Jordan

New Agency, Petra, that the chemical detergent company will have 800,000 shares each worth 10 Iraqi dinars. The minister added that 51 per cent of the capital will be owned by the Iraqi and Jordania public sectors while the rest will be floated for subscription by private sectors in the two countries.

A 250,000 Iraqi dinar tender has been awarded to an Iraqi company for preparing documents for setting up the chemical detergent company which will also engage in financing and acquiring equipment needed for the detergent industry in both countries provided that such engagements do not conflict with or encroach upon the interests of other projects being carried out by the Jordanian-Iraqi Industry Company, the minister noted.

The Baghdad based company was set up three years ago with a JD 20 million capital shared equally by the Jordanian and Iraqi governments.

Jordanian accounting firm publishes bulletin on taxes

By Samaleh B. Ne'matt
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — A Jordanian public accounting firm has issued a monthly publication aimed at reporting on tax issues in the Kingdom and keeping taxpayers abreast of the latest developments in the field of taxation.

"Tax Brief," a bulletin published by Alaeddin and Dajani, provides up to date information on Jordan's tax system and notifies taxpayers on changes taking place in the field and how to benefit from these changes.

According to the company, the bulletin which is available in Arabic and English, aims at realising a specialised newsletter that would "gradually bridge the gap between income tax law and its implementation and impact on taxpayers."

"This is a vital area of knowledge and is continuously needed by businessmen and citizens alike to help them plan short term and long term tax strategies," the company's tax manager Fouad Hourani told the Jordan Times.

Another aim of the bulletin is to inform the reader on the latest developments in the Kingdom's taxation policies that are otherwise difficult to obtain from other sources.

The bulletin can be obtained free of charge from the Alaeddin and Dajani office in Amman.

FORECAST FOR SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 1988

YOUR HOROSCOPE

From the Carroll Righter Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES:

"This is an excellent day to plan your 'vision of action' for the near future, using the experience of past successes and failures as a guideline. Your mind will be unusually active and alert, so use it wisely."

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Taking the lead in social situations would be wise at this time, since you have the ability to be highly convincing and entertaining.

Taurus (Apr. 20 to May 20) You can please your loved ones enormously right now if you do a few small favors for them. Don't let a small worry ruin your good mood.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Stay away from people who are overly agreeable and pleasant today. Decide on what it is you want the most, and how to obtain it.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21) If you need a little assistance from people in positions of power, state your ambitions directly and clearly.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Plan a relaxing trip which will help to relieve the tension you are under. Joining forces with new contacts would be wise right now.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Try to get your life arranged more efficiently, and you can get ahead faster. Try to see things from your mate's point of view.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) You can either make a new contract with an associate, or revise an old one.

which will raise your status in business considerably.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Get in touch with an efficient co-worker and plan the week's activities wisely. Tonight should be an especially happy one.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Show that you are confident in your abilities, and make a hit with your superiors. Plan some recreation for the coming week.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Have a discussion with your family, and come to a fine understanding. Easier than some close friends in your home this evening.

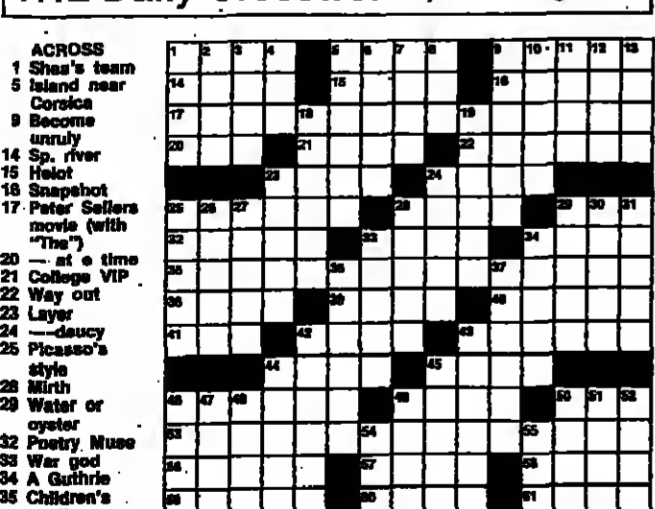
AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) You are thinking very clearly today, so take advantage of this situation. Go out with some friends tonight, but don't overstep.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) You can find some good ideas for adding to your present assets and improving your property. If a friend helps you out, show your gratitude.

If Your Child Is Born Today He or she will jump right into my project which seems interesting. This ambitious nature should be encouraged, but teach your progeny to discriminate between worthwhile and worthless projects to avoid wasting time. Useful sports are a must for your energetic child.

"The Stars impel; they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you!

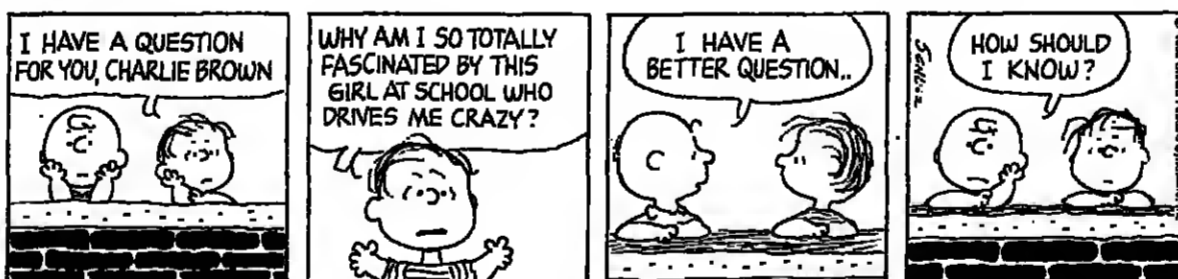
THE Daily Crossword by Samuel K. Flieger



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- Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:**
1. Actor Chaney
 2. Movie
 3. Ethel of song
 4. Conifer
 5. Hatters
 6. Consecrate
 7. Ringed planet
 8. Natchez
 9. Heroine
 10. Disney TV group
 11. Modesty
 12. Penelope
 13. Eliphalet
 14. Weeping
 15. Old postcard
 16. City school
 17. DCM
 18. Reminder
 19. Hard wood
 20. Genuflect
 21. Blatant call
 22. Respect
 23. "The Merry Widow" composer
 24. Elegance
 25. Exc. capital
 26. Cheesecake
 27. Passion
 28. Latin word
 29. Long river
 30. Numerical prefix
 31. Purely academic
 32. Part of 160
 33. Twofold
 34. Competent
 35. "Miniver" actress

Peanuts



Mutt'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



THE BETTER HALF. By Harris



Ortega agrees to new freedoms as peace talks break down

GUATEMALA CITY (R) — Ceasefire talks broke down Friday between the Nicaraguan government and rebels, but the government said it had accepted in principle a compromise proposal and was willing to continue negotiations.

In statement issued after peace mediator Cardinal Miguel Obando Y. Bravo suspended the talks, saying neither side trusted the other, the Sandinistas accepted the cardinal's proposal for a 30-day truce and suggested steps needed to implement it.

"The Nicaraguan government states its agreement in principle with points proposed by Cardinal Miguel Obando Y. Bravo," it said.

The statement said Nicaragua also agreed to implement full press freedoms and renew an unconditional political dialogue with the opposition in Nicaragua. On Obando Y. Bravo's proposal for a full amnesty for political prisoners, the statement said an amnesty law already exists and would be applied once a ceasefire was in effect. Military conscription will be phased out at that time, it said.

The Sandinista statement was issued after contra leaders accused Managua of intransigence in not accepting a proposal they had approved unconditionally.

"They were highly unintelligent not to accept the proposal immediately in principle," contra delegation leader Jaime Morales

told Reuters. "They had nothing to lose," he added.

Obando Y. Bravo told reporters he hoped the Sandinistas would reflect on his plan in the next few days, pointing out that every day without an agreement means more lives lost in Nicaragua.

Contras claim seizure of \$1m
Back in Nicaragua, contra rebels Friday said they had seized \$1 million in new Nicaraguan bank notes from the wreck of a Nicaraguan Air Force helicopter.

A rebel spokesman said contras used a heat-seeking "red-eye" missile to bring down the Soviet-supplied Mi-17 helicopter Sunday as it ferried the new currency to remote villages for distribution the next day.

The government had said the chopper crashed after mechanical failure.

Quoting a field report, contra spokesman Jorge Rosales said by telephone from Miami that rebels seized the money from the wreckage, and 15 people aboard the aircraft were killed.

A Nicaraguan Defence Ministry spokesman confirmed the helicopter had been carrying an

allotment of the new currency issued Monday as part of a package of anti-inflationary reforms. But he said the quantity was much less than \$1 million. He said he did not know if the government had examined the wreck yet.

The Defence Ministry said earlier this week that seven people were killed when the helicopter crashed after "technical failures" about 145 kilometres east of Managua.

New push for private contra aid

Meanwhile, in the U.S., private American supporters of the contras are stepping up a campaign to raise military aid denied by U.S. lawmakers, which analysts say the rebels need to remain a credible fighting force.

"In order to surmount this challenge we need your financial support and appeal to the generosity which has always characterized the American people," said a contra fund-raising letter. "The Nicaraguan resistance... makes an urgent plea for your support at this crucial juncture."

Supporters of the contras, who have been battling the Nicaraguan government since 1981 with President Reagan's support, have been searching for new backers since the U.S. House of Representatives refused two weeks ago to renew contra aid.

Shultz calls for interim Afghan government

HELSINKI (Agencies) — U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz expressed support Saturday for the idea of an interim government for Afghanistan as demanded by Pakistan and said he would raise the matter in talks with Soviet leaders.

Shultz arrived in Helsinki from Washington Saturday for a one-day stopover on his way to Moscow for talks in preparation for a Soviet-American summit.

Speaking to reporters on the plane, he said an interim government to replace the Soviet-backed one in Kabul "is a way of making a contribution to stability in the country as withdrawal (of Soviet troops) takes place."

Shultz said there was disagreement over what the interim government should be and how it should be formed. "We'll discuss this in Moscow, I'm sure," he said.

Pakistan denies Soviet charges

In Islamabad, Pakistan Saturday denied Soviet charges that it had threatened to stall an Afghan peace settlement by insisting on its demand for an interim government in Kabul.

"It is absolutely wrong to say that Pakistan is creating problems or is dragging its feet or creating obstacles," Pakistani Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Zain Noorani said.

The minister, returning from visits to Washington and London, repeated Pakistan's view that there could be more hoodlums in Afghanistan if a transitional government was not established before Soviet troops withdraw.

fore Soviet troops withdraw.

The official APP news agency quoted Noorani as telling reporters there was "a great appreciation and understanding of Pakistan's principled stand" in Washington and London.

Noorani was leaving for Peking Sunday as part of consultations with friendly countries before the next round of indirect talks with Afghanistan in Geneva begin on March 2.

Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Yuli Vorontsov, who visited Pakistan last week, said Thursday that Islamabad was threatening to delay a solution by demanding the creation of an interim government before signing an accord in Geneva.

"This is a very dangerous development in our view, because we think the Afghan people must do it themselves," a Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman said Thursday.

Soviet message to Kuwait

In a related development, a Soviet envoy delivered a message Saturday to the Emir of Kuwait, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah, from Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, the Kuwait News Agency KUNA said.

Envoy Oleg Grinysky told reporters in Baghdad. Thursday the message concerned the conflict in Afghanistan.

Diplomats said Moscow was seeking Arab and Islamic support for its plan to withdraw troops from Afghanistan.

S. Africa attacks 2 SWAPO bases in Angola

PRETORIA (AP) — The South African Air Force carried out a revenge attack on two South-West Africa People's Organisation (SWAPO) guerrilla bases in Angola Saturday morning, retaliating for a bank bombing that had killed 18 people in Namibia, the defence force chief announced.

General Jannie Geldenhuys said air force fighter aircraft successfully carried out attacks on SWAPO targets in Lubango and Ongiva in southern Angola.

Geldenhuys said the attacks were in retaliation for the bombing Friday at the First National Bank in Oshana, South-West Africa, where 18 people were killed and 31 injured. Geldenhuys said SWAPO, which has been fighting 22 years against South African occupation of the territory, also known as Namibia, was responsible for the lunch bomb.

But a statement Friday from the SWAPO office in Luanda, Angola, denied involvement in the bombing, and said it was part of a South African propaganda campaign to "smear the name of SWAPO."

The guerrillas fight in South-West Africa from bases in southern Angola, which periodically are raided by the South African defence force.

The Friday bank blast was the deadliest in the 22 years of the war.

COLUMNS 7 & 8

Scientist says exercise may kill you

SAN ANTONIO, Texas (R) — Exercise may be pushing themselves into an early grave instead of a longer life, says a scientist specialising in ageing research. According to Dr. Roger McCarter, a professor of physiology at the University of Texas Health Science Centre in San Antonio, people may be genetically programmed to burn a set amount of calories before they die. "If you use those calories quickly by having a high metabolic rate, such as one has while exercising, then it could shorten your lifespan," McCarter said. McCarter has begun experiments using 160 rats to test the connection between metabolic rates and lifespan. The idea that each person can use only a pre-determined amount of calories during his life is sometimes called the "rate-of-living" theory.

Casual sex rising despite AIDS

WASHINGTON (R) — The U.S. government has gathered evidence that casual sex is increasing despite widespread fears about AIDS, the nation's top health officer said Friday. U.S. Surgeon General C. Everett Koop also took issue with news reports that played down the chance of heterosexuals contracting the deadly Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome. In the United States, AIDS has struck mostly at homosexuals and intravenous drug users. In a status report on AIDS to a congressional subcommittee, the outspoken Koop blasted a recent article in the popular magazine *Cosmopolitan* for stating that women had little to fear from the AIDS epidemic. "It is a great disservice to women," he said. "The risk is real. Complacency worries me." He said that a spate of recent news reports were wrong in stating there is no danger of heterosexual transmission from normal vaginal intercourse. "Although homosexual and... drug activity are the roots by which most cases are transmitted," he said, "it is just not true that there is no danger from normal vaginal intercourse." To date, there have been 2,092 cases of heterosexuals with AIDS out of a total U.S. caseload of 52,249 adults. Most of the Americans — about half the heterosexuals were foreigners — were infected by drug-abusing sex partners.

Woman infected with AIDS to sue

LONDON (R) — A British woman infected with the AIDS virus through a contaminated blood transfusion is suing for compensation in the first action of its kind in this country, the *Guardian* newspaper said Saturday. The newspaper said the woman, in her 20s, was suing the driver of a truck that knocked her down for her injuries, and for the infection she received in a hospital blood transfusion. If successful, the case would set an important legal precedent. Britain introduced screening of blood for the Acquired Immune Deficiency virus in October, 1985, just months after the woman's accident.

16-year-old arrested for ax murders

ROCHESTER, Minnesota (AP) — Authorities Friday arrested a 16-year-old boy in the ax murders of his parents, a brother and a sister, and prosecutors said they would seek to try him as an adult on murder charges. "The boy has been captured and they are interviewing him now," said a police official who refused to give his name. The boy, who had dyed his hair black and partially shaved his head before the bodies were found, was taken into custody at the main Rochester post office, he said. Olmsted County Attorney Raymond Schmitz told reporters, "our intent is to file a petition charging him with four counts of first-degree murder. Then we'll petition to try him as an adult." The bodies of Bernard Brom, 41, his wife, Paulette, about 40, and children Diane, 14, and Rick, 9, were found in their nightclothes Thursday evening at their home in suburban Cascade Township, said Olmsted County Sheriff Charles Von Wald. The four were believed to have been slain early Thursday morning, the sheriff said. A bloody ax was found in the basement of the home in a quiet, well-to-do area just outside this southeastern Minnesota city of 60,000, he said. Law enforcement officials talked with friends of the 16-year-old who had spoken with him Thursday, the sheriff said. "He indicated he was having some trouble with his parents," Von Wald said. "One student said he was having trouble with his dad because of a tape he had bought and he didn't want him listening to it."

Rape suspect arrested in Iran

PITTSBURGH, Penn. (R) — A suburban Pittsburgh gynaecologist who fled to his native Iran to escape rape charges in the United States has been arrested there on a fugitive warrant, U.S. officials said Friday. Reza Rasti, 45, was arrested last month in Iran, where rape is punishable by death. Iranian authorities asked for court documents related to the case, in which he is charged with raping nine women patients, said John Zottola, an assistant district attorney. The Request for all the documents suggests that Iran wishes to try Rasti before an Islamic court, a U.S. State Department official said. The official said the United States was still considering whether to ask for Rasti's return from Iran. The two countries have no bilateral extradition treaty. The district attorney's office in Pittsburgh has asked U.S. authorities to seek the extradition of Rasti, an Iranian citizen, Zottola said. He added that he did not know why Rasti fled the United States two years ago since a rape conviction in Pennsylvania carries a maximum 20-year sentence. Rasti was declared a fugitive in April, 1986, after he left the country while awaiting trial for the rape charges. His victims, aged 21 to 34, were allegedly raped during routine gynaecological exams between 1982 and 1985, Zottola said.

Dhaka residents stage anti-mosquito rally

DHAKA (R) — Hundreds of Dhaka residents staged a noisy demonstration Friday, demanding the government rid the city of malaria-carrying mosquitoes. Colourful placards read: "Kill the stinging enemies and let us live" and "Down with mosquitoes." The chanting demonstrators threatened to boycott municipal elections on March 3 unless candidates promised to launch a war on mosquitoes. "This is an unbearable situation," one said, adding: "no action, no vote." The marchers were cheered and clapped by bystanders and policemen. "The situation warrants an all-out combat programme, including spraying insecticides from the air, but such a drive is being delayed for want of money," a municipal official said. He said the city of four million people had two aircraft and three pilots available for spraying insecticides — "but we have no funds to use the facilities." Hospital doctors said they had treated about 1,000 cases of malaria in the last four months.

American film festival opens in Moscow

MOSCOW (R) — The first major American film festival in Moscow opened Friday with a promised showing of a vintage movie in which Ronald Reagan has his legs chopped off. Actor Richard Gere came on stage in person to introduce more than 30 films including "King's Row," featuring the man who became president of the United States and voiced the memorable line: "What's happened to the rest of me?" Gere told the Soviet audience gathered for the opening and screening of the film "Roxanne" that the festival provided "an incredible opportunity to change the way we have thought of each other." Other stars planning to make personal appearances in the festival, including Daryl Hannah, Matt Dillon and Marlee Matlin, were expected to arrive later.

Bombs explode; Salvador rebels press offensive

SAN SALVADOR (R) — Pre-election violence increased Friday with two bomb attacks in the capital, and eight soldiers and five guerrillas killed overnight as leftist rebels pressed on with a new offensive in the countryside, military sources said.

The bombs exploded at the house of a banker and at the entrance to a hardware store owned by a prominent member of the ruling Christian Democrat Party Friday. They damaged the buildings, but no one was injured.

It was not immediately known if the bombings were carried out

by a rival political party or the leftist Farabundo Martí National Liberation Front (FMLN), who Tuesday night launched a new offensive to disrupt the March 20 local elections.

Government troops and FMLN fighters clashed overnight in the east and centre of the country.

Military sources said a large guerrilla force attacked the civil defence post at San Jorge, 125 kilometres east of San Salvador. They killed five militiamen and wounded two, and an unknown number were missing. The post was destroyed, the sources said.

Vietnam claims Chinese warships intruded waters

BANGKOK (AP) — Vietnam charged Saturday that four Chinese warships "provoked and obstructed" operations of its cargo vessels off a South China Sea archipelago claimed by both countries.

Radio Hanoi, monitored in Bangkok, said China's "illegal action" had aggravated tensions in the region and showed that Peking was intent on seriously threatening the region's security.

The broadcast, quoting a Hanoi foreign ministry statement, said that on Jan. 31 four Chinese naval vessels interfered with the normal operations of two Vietnamese cargo ships off the Truong Sa archipelago. The

statement said the islands were a part of Vietnamese territory.

"This is an illegal action showing China's intention to violate the territorial sovereignty of Vietnam and seriously threatening the security of Vietnam," the statement said.

The statement did not detail how the Chinese ships had interfered with the Vietnamese vessels.

Both countries claim the Truong Sa, as well as the Hoang Sa archipelagoes. The two countries fought a bloody border war in 1979 and have since accused each other of frontier violations, both on land and at sea.

Bush boosted by debate

DALLAS, Texas (R) — U.S. Vice-President George Bush, fresh from victory in the latest round of the fight for the 1988 Republican presidential nomination, received an unexpected boost when two of his three rivals boycotted a major debate.

Seoate Republican leader Robert Dole, winner of the first round, and former television preacher Pat Robertson skipped the Texas debate Friday night, charging that its sponsors had manipulated ticket distribution and leaked debate questions.

Analysts said their surprise absence might help Bush, who calls a Houston, Texas hotel suite home, although he was born in Massachusetts, lived in Connecticut and spends summers at his ocean-front home in Maine.

The vice-president was left to debate with New York Representative Jack Kemp, who finished a distant third behind Bush and Dole in New Hampshire's first primary Tuesday.

Both Bush and Kemp criticised the absentees.

"I think they made a big mistake," Bush said.

The Republican dialogue was less heated than a Dallas debate among five of the six Democratic presidential hopefuls Thursday.

French woman guerrilla leader acquitted in surprise verdict

PARIS (R) — A French woman guerrilla whose 82-day hunger strike is stirring up a national controversy was surprisingly declared innocent in her third trial of the year.

Nathalie Menigon, the emaciated leader of Action Directe, sat slumped in a reclining chair behind the dock Friday night, as a special anti-terrorist court acquitted her and her two companions of attempted manslaughter after their alleged victim retracted his evidence.

Menigon's increasingly frail appearance — she is now believed to weigh only 30 kilos (66 pounds) — has transformed the public attitude to her fate from one of indifference to active concern.

French commentators had almost unanimously expected Menigon, already sentenced to long prison terms in two recent trials, to be convicted by the court of seven magistrates and no jury during Friday's trial.

But the prosecution's case fell apart when leading witness Alain

Carpentier denied he had signed a police statement identifying the suspects as the trio who shot him in the chest and throat in 1982 after he refused to join their group.

Instead, he accused police of forging his signature on the statement, and said they had tried to strike a deal, offering to drop a charge against him if he agreed to implicate Menigon, Régis Schleicher and Jean-François Gaillac.

The prosecution had demanded 15-year sentences for the two men and eight for Menigon, already sentenced to 12 years Wednesday for the attempted murder of two policemen and 10 last week for criminal conspiracy.

Menigon and three other convicted Action Directe leaders — Jean-Marc Rouillon, Joelle Aubron and Georges Cipriani — have refused solid food since Dec. 1 in protest at their solitary confinement and a bid to win political prisoner status.

But the government has repeatedly refused to give way to the prisoners' demands.

Floods kill 28 in Rio de Janeiro

RIO DE JANEIRO (R) — At least 28 people died in rock and mud slides caused by flash floods which devastated several Rio de Janeiro neighbourhoods Friday, a civil defence spokesman said.

He said the authorities expect a death toll of more than 30 following the floods, which caused ex-

tensive damage and virtually paralysed the city. Many people were said to be missing.

The civil defence spokesman said volunteers were working in several areas of the city, trying to rescue people trapped in mudslides.

25 killed in Punjab violence

AMRITSAR, India (AP) — Sikh gunmen killed two people at a bus stop Saturday on the outskirts of Amritsar, raising to 25 the toll of those slain in a series of bombings and gun attacks in Punjab state since Friday morning, police and news reports said.

The victims included 10 people shot to death and then set ablaze in a village farmhouse, and 10 others who died in bomb attacks in four cities in the northern state. More than 60 people also were wounded in the bombings.

An unexploded bomb was found Saturday in a fifth city, Batala, the United News of India (UNI) reported. It said the two-kilogramme (4.4 pound) tin of explosives was left in a store by a woman customer in the city 40 kilometres northeast of Amritsar.

The latest killings bring to nearly 250 the number of people killed this year in Punjab in attacks blamed on Sikh militants demanding a separate nation for their minority religion.

In the village of Sahra, nine members of a farm family were killed with automatic rifles and revolvers Friday night, along with a man staying at the house, police said.

Residents in the village, about 30 kilometres southeast of Amritsar, said about six Sikh gunmen stormed into the home while the family slept.

U.S. drug report: No penalties for Panama

NEW YORK (AP) — Mexico and Panama should not be penalised by the United States despite their failure to control drug trafficking, according to a draft U.S. State Department report.

The New York Times, citing unidentified administration officials, reported Saturday that the report, prepared by the Bureau of International Narcotics Matters, said "other national interests" warrant that the countries not be penalised.

Under a 1986 law, the U.S. president certifies countries that are "fully cooperating" in cracking down on the drug trade. Those that don't qualify lose military and economic aid, trade preferences, loans and other economic advantages.

The report charged that Panama and Mexico haven't made adequate progress in combating the drug trade but said they should be certified, the Times reported.

Panama's military leader, General Manuel Antonio Noriega, and some of his aides were indicted this month on drug and racketeering charges. "It's ridiculous and stupid, absolutely ludicrous, and sends the wrong signals to both countries," Senator Alfonse D'Amato

of New York said of the report's recommendation.

Senator John Kerry of Massachusetts said: "It is totally outrageous, particularly in the case of Panama."

The report is provisional and subject to clearance by other governmental agencies and regional assistant secretaries of state. It would then be submitted to the Secretary of State and the president, who is to announce his decision March 1.

Panama proposes Noriega exile

Meanwhile, in Washington the State Department said Friday that Panama proposed a deal under which Noriega would go into exile if U.S. charges against him were dropped.

"It was not raised by us," State Department Spokesman Charles Redman told reporters. "It was raised by the Panamanians."

But Redman hedged when asked if such a deal, opposed publicly by the Justice Department, would be considered as a way to get rid of Noriega. The Reagan administration has been urging Noriega to withdraw from politics to pave the way for elections next year.

Spain allows women to serve in armed forces

MADRID (R) — Spanish women will be allowed to serve in the armed forces, and eventually in combat units, under new legislation approved by the Spanish cabinet Friday.

Under the new law, due to come into effect later this year, women will compete on equal terms with men for entry into the army, navy and air force, including the paramilitary civil guard, government spokesman Javier Solana told reporters after the weekly cabinet meeting.

Women will be introduced gradually into the 326,000-strong armed forces, eventually being

eligible to join combat units, a Defence Ministry spokesman said.

He said the law was intended to bring the armed forces into line with Spain's 10-year-old constitution, which outlaws sex discrimination.

"Sometime in the future, the question of whether women should do military service will also have to be considered," the spokesman added.

All Spanish men over 18 years of age must do at least a year's military service, unless they are conscientious objectors or medically unfit.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES BOREN AND OMAR SHARIF
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AWAKE AT THE SWITCH

North-South vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
♠ 43
♥ 8532
♦ A J 10
♣ A J 10 6

WEST
♠ K Q J 10 7 6
♥ A 9 8 2
♦ 9
♣ 532

EAST
♠ K Q
♥ K 9 4
♦ 8 5 2

SOUTH
♠ 5
♥ A J 10 7 6 4
♦ Q 8 7
♣ K Q 3

The bidding:
South West North East
1 ♠ 2 ♠ 4 ♠ 4 S
5 ♠ Pass Pass Pass

Opening lead: King of ♠. The defenders work at a disadvantage. Each knows only half his side's assets; the other 13 cards visible to him belong to dummy. So the defenders need signals to enable one to convey his holding to the other. If you receive a signal from partner and choose to ignore it, you do so at your own risk.

On this hand from a team event, both declarers were pushed to five hearts on similar auctions. Note North's decision to jump to four hearts. He was afraid that a bid of three hearts would sound competitive rather than strength-showing.

After sacrificing at four spades, East-West sold out to five hearts. It is an old truism that the five-level belongs to your opponents.

At both tables West led the king of spades and partner furnished the two. There are those who insist that East's card is a suit-preference signal requesting a shift to the lower of the remaining suits. We disagree. East's play to the first trick normally shows attitude: whether he wants the suit continued or not. A low card asks for a shift; a high card encourages.

At one table West chose to distrust his partner and played another spade. Declarer ruffed and cashed the ace of hearts. After running clubs (East refused to ruff the fourth club and declarer discarded a diamond), declarer simply presented East with his trump trick, and East had a choice of ways to commit suicide. A spade would yield a ruff-stuff; a diamond would be into declarer's tenace.

At the other table West heeded his partner's signal and switched to a diamond at trick two. Now declarer had no way to avoid losing three tricks.

How did West know he had to shift to a diamond rather than a club? If declarer had a club loser, it was unlikely it would go away. But a diamond loser might disappear on a long club.